FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 APRIL 1986

Israel

Addressing the Labor Party national convention, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said Israel "recognizes" the Palestinians "as a Nation," asserting that the only path to resolving the dispute between them is "dialogue," *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported. Peres also announced that Israel would be a willing partner to unconditional peace talks with Syria if and when the latter is prepared to deal with Israel, and he stressed Israel's willingness to discuss arrangements with Syria to prevent "unwanted flare-ups."

In another part of his speech, broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Peres referred to the current government crisis, noting Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i's "unforgivable" conduct and asserting that he "must be removed" from his post. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir viewed Peres' Comments on the finance minister as "very serious," adding that they may "spell the end" of the National Unity Government, the radio reported. Nevertheless, *HA'ARETZ reported that Moda'i, Shamir, and Knesset member* Avraham Shapira have devised a compromise formula if Peres continues to insist upon Moda'i's ouster, which entails Moda'i's agreement to leave the Finance Ministry but to remain a government minister.

Jerusalem radio reported that 10 passengers were injured, 1 seriously, when a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a bus passing through 'Anatot. In another report, the radio noted that a soldier was slightly injured when a "small" bomb exploded in the center of 'Afula.

Egypt-Israel

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, currently in Israel to attend the Labor Party convention, held talks with Israeli Prime Minister Peres which Ghali termed "constructive and positive," Jerusalem radio reported. The radio added that Ghali delivered a verbal message to Peres from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Egypt

Any claim that the Camp David accords have left Egypt outside the arena of Arab struggle is "inadmissible," the People's Assembly asserted in a statement cited by MENA. The statement, which came in response to statements allegedly made by the Socialist Labor party leader during his visit to Libya, stressed that peace is a "firm strategic option" for Egypt and affirmed that President Mubarak enjoys "full" popular support. On the other hand, Liberal Socialist Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad announced his party's decision to withdraw support for the Camp David Accords and welcomed the Socialist Labor Party Leader's visit to Libya, according to MENA.

Libya

The Egyptian Socialist Labor Party delegation which recently visited Libya was informed by Libyan Chief of Staff General Abu Bakr Yunis that 56 libyans were killed in the confrontation with the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Gulf of Sidra, the Cairo paper *Al-SHA'B disclosed in a report cited by AFP. Gen Yunis also* told the Egyptians that the 6th Fleet never crossed the "line of death" defined by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Meanwhile, Tripoli radio cited recent explosions in Sweden and Peru as evidence of an "epidemic of violent action" against U.S. interests spreading throughout the world. U.S. accusations of Libyan involvement in the recent West Berlin Bombing were mentioned by the radio, and JANA subsequently cited an FRG official's view that U.S. media allegations of Libyan involvement are "groundless."

Lebanon

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon blamed "the hand of Syria and its tools" for an 8 April car-bomb explosion in Juniyah that killed 11 people and wounded 100 others. The radio said that such terrorist acts are aimed at pressuring the Christians in an attempt "to achieve what cannot be achieved by other means."

Another car-bomb exploded in Israel's security zone in the south, wounding six Lebanese, including three army of southern Lebanon soldiers, and killing the driver of the car, according to IDF radio. Beirut radio said the Lebanese National Resistance Front was responsible for the "suicide operation," and Damascus radio reported that the "hero" responsible for the attack was a Lebanese member of the Ba'th party.

In other violence, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that over 12 people were killed in the Al-Kharrub town of Bsaba during clashes which erupted 7 April between Sunnis and Druze gunmen from the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP). The PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio maintained that PSP officials managed to contain the "regrettable" incident and cited a warning by PSP leader Walid Junblatt against continuing the feud. Junblatt subsequently left for Damascus to hold talks with the Syrians and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, the radio noted. The PLO Executive Committee denounced Amal's attacks against Palestinian camps in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO Radio, accusing Amal of implementing a "Zionist" plan and stressing the need to confront the attacks with strength and decisiveness.

Iran-Iraq War

In war developments, "heavy" fighting continued in the northern region around Darband-e Khan, according to IRNA, adding that the Iraqi forces suffered over 50 casualties. In a Tehran radio

report, Iran announced that it downed two Iraqi fighters over the southern battlefront.

On the Iraqi side, a military spokesman denied the Iranian claim on the downing of the two Iraqi aircraft, INA reported. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio reported that the Iraqi Air Force downed two of four Iranian fighters that attempted to penetrate Iraq's borders in the south. A communique cited by the radio claimed that Iraqi forces were successful in "liberating" all the "important" heights overlooking the Al-Duwayrij River and imposed "full control" over the area. In other action, INA reported that Iraqi naval fire hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast.

A large French supertanker was "apparently attacked" in the Gulf recently, the Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported, noting that Dubai shipping sources said the ship has been holed but its owners have refused to discuss the cause of the damage.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA Foreign Affairs Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge and protested an alleged violation of its airspace by two Pakistani fighters, Kabul radio reported. The radio further noted that the Foreign Affairs Ministry "resolutely" rejected a Pakistani claim that DRA forces directed artillery fire on Bahadur, Mohmand Agency, on 30 March.

DRA

Kabul radio reported that the country's security forces carried out successful operations in Khowst va Fereng, in which 120 mujahidin were "crushed" and a large amount of ammunition was seized. On the other hand, Karachi radio cited reports that the mujahidin have succeeded in lifting a siege in Paktia Province after "fierce" fighting resulting in "heavy" casualties on both sides. The radio added that the mujahidin downed three helicopter gunships and hit a MiG aircraft.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 068 *9 April 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Statement on Fighting in Palestinian Camps *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
On Israeli Raid on Sidon Camps *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
'Arafat on Israeli, Amal Attacks on Palestinians *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Repeats Call for Arab Summit Soon *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 2
PLO Official on Relations With Jordan *[WAKH]* ..... A 2
Conflicting Reports on Fatah Rebellion in Jordan *[WAKH]* ..... A 2
PLO Forces Report Anti-Israeli Operations *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 3
PLO Radio Reports on Fighting in Sabra, Shatila *[Baghdad]* ..... A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Further Reportage on U.S. Vice Presidential Visit ..... C 1
Foreign Minister on Talks ..... C 1
Bush Holds Press Conference ..... C 1
Further Details ..... C 1
Says U.S. Will Defend Gulf ..... C 2
Journal Criticizes U.S. Policy *[SADA'AL-USBU' 8 Apr]* ..... C 2
Bush Departs for Oman ..... C 3

KUWAIT

AL-SIYASAH on Aims of Bush Visit to Gulf *[7 Apr]* ..... C 3
Prime Minister Rejects Intervention in Region *[AL-QABAS 3 Apr]* ..... C 3
Paper Criticizes USSR Middle East Policy ..... C 4

OMAN

Vice President Bush Arrives in Muscat 9 Apr ..... C 4

PDRY

Aden Radio Criticizes George Bush's Gulf Tour ..... C 4
Foreign Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador ..... C 5
Economic Talks With USSR Resume in Aden ..... C 5

SAUDI ARABIA

Paper Views Basic Issues of Fahd-Bush Talks ..... C 5

EGYPT

Israel's Eban Presents Peres Message to Mubarak *[Tel Aviv IDF Radio]* ..... D 1
Concludes Visit, Departs 8 Apr ..... D 1
People's Assembly Statement on Libyan Visit ..... D 1
Economy Minister on Debts to Soviet Union ..... D 1
Liberal Socialists Renounce Camp David Accord ..... D 1
Czechoslovakia To Help Finance New Power Plant ..... D 2
Bulgarian Envoy on 60 Years of Diplomatic Ties ..... D 2

Jordan's Health Minister Arrives on Visit ..... D 2

IRAQ

Saddam Husayn Exchanges Cables With Soviet Leaders ..... E 1
Congratulates Bulgaria's Todor Zhivkov *[Voice of the Masses]* ..... E 1
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran *[Voice of the Masses]* ..... E 1
Communique No 2,180 ..... E 1
Loss of Aircraft Denied ..... E 2
'Large Maritime Target' Attacked ..... E 2

LEBANON

Mansour Interviewed, Denies Role in TWA Bombing *[Paris]* ..... G 1
12 Killed in Blast Outside Sabena Office ..... G 1
Explosion Occured 'Yesterday' *[Brussels]* ..... G 1
French National Kidnapped in Beirut 9 Apr *[Paris]* ..... G 1
Soviet Ambassador Reportedly Returns to Beirut *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil Receives Husyan Note of Support *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 1
Junblatt Leaves for Damascus To Meet Khaddam *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
RFL Accuses Syria of Committing Juniyah 'Crime' ..... G 2
Franjiyah on New Plan for Political Solution *[Idhin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Army Major 'Assassinated' in West Beirut ..... G 2
British Embassy Asks Nationals To Leave Beirut ..... G 2
Amal Opposes Shi'ite Muslim Republic in South *[Jerusalem]* ..... G 2
Junblatt Men Attack Bsaba, Clash With Sunnites *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
13 Sunnites, 2 Druze Killed *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Junblatt Mourns Victims in Bsaba Incident *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
Amal, Palestinians Continue To Clash 8 Apr *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Resistance Front Claims Kawkaba Suicide Attack ..... G 4
Further Details *[Damascus]* ..... G 4

SYRIA

Rif'at al-Asad Condemns Acts of Terrorism *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 1
Japanese Paper Interviews Information Minister Rajjuh ..... H 1
U.S. Statements 'No Longer Significant' ..... H 1
Papers on U.S. Threats Against Syria, Libya ..... H 2

ISRAEL

Peres Calls For 'Unconditional Talks' With Syria ..... I 1
Recognizes Palestinians 'As Nation' ..... I 1
Shamir: Remark 'Deviation From Policy' ..... I 1
W. Bank Notables Satisfied ..... I 1
Tehiya Submits No-Confidence Motion ..... I 1
Coverage on Possible Moda'i Dismissal/Resignation ..... I 2
Peres: Moda'i 'Must Be Removed' ..... I 2
Shamir: Remarks 'Very Serious' ..... I 2
Hopes for Resolution ..... I 2
Alignment, Likud State Positions ..... I 3
Moda'i Offers To Resign ..... I 3
Shamir Against Resignation ..... I 4
Likud Expected To Reject Offer ..... I 4
Further Likud Reaction ..... I 5
Moda'i Backs Sharon as Replacement ..... I 5
Beilin: Resignation Not Yet Final ..... I 5
Labor Leaders Comment on Events ..... I 6
Likud Ministers Threaten To Resign ..... I 6
Knesset Faction Supports Decision ..... I 6
No Resignation Before 13 Apr ..... I 6

Reportage on Egypt's Ghali Visit, Meeting With Peres ..... I 6
Ghali: Meeting 'Very Constructive' ..... I 6
Calls for Improvements in Territories ..... I 7
Praises Remark on Palestinian Nation ..... I 7
Peres Briefs Knesset Committe on Regional Issues *[HA'ARETZ 8 Apr]* ..... I 7
Rabin To Allow Political Rallies in Territories ..... I 7
Favors Territorial Compromise *[HADASHOT 9 Apr]* ..... I 7
Warns Syria, Iraq on Using Missiles ..... I 7
Terrorists Consolidating Naval Activity *[HA'ARETZ 8 Apr]* ..... I 8
IDF Recruiting Muslim, Christian Galilee Arabs *[MA'ARIV 8 Apr]* ..... I 8
Incidents Involving Molotov Cocktails, Bombs ..... I 8
Bus Hit Near Jerusalem; 10 Hurt ..... I 8
Car Explodes in Zone; 6 Wounded ..... I 8
Bomb Explodes in 'Afula; 1 Hurt ..... I 8
Charge Goes Off in Haifa; No Damage ..... I 8
AL-QUDS Urges Renewal of Jordan-PLO Dialogue *[4 Apr]* ..... I 9
Briefs: March Soviet Immigration ..... I 9

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Addresses FLN Conference ..... Q 1
Energy Talks End With More Gas Supplies for SFRY ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Military Commanders ..... Q 1
U.S. Official Affirms Attack Plan ..... Q 1
UAE Paper: Libya, Sudan To Establish Union *[WAM]* ..... Q 2
U.S. Urges West Europeans To Expel Libyan Diplomats ..... Q 2
U.S. Citizens, Interests Attacked Worldwide ..... Q 2
FRG Investigator Says Libya Not Involved in Bombing ..... Q 2
Katushev Gives Al-Qadhdhafi Gorbachev Message *[Voice of Greater Arab Homeland]* ..... Q 2
Economic Cooperation Discussed ..... Q 2
Katushev Lays Wreath ..... Q 3
Egyptian Assembly Member Cited on Visit Criticism *[Voice of Greater Arab Homeland]* ..... Q 3
JANA Scores Egyptian Stance ..... Q 3

MOROCCO

King Briefs Party Leaders on Talks With De Cuellar ..... Q 3
Information Ministry Statement ..... Q 3
King Hassan Grants Interview to French Magazine ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Libyan Delegation ..... Q 4
Discuss Unity, Relations *[Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland]* ..... Q 4
Military Source on Situation in Bahr al-Ghazal ..... Q 5
Military Helicopter Catches Fire in East ..... Q 5
SPLA Puts 2 April Plane Death Toll at 28 *[Radio SPLA]* ..... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Draft Constitution To Undergo Public Discussion ..... R 1

UGANDA

Museveni Assures West Nile of Equal Treatment ..... R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAR

Trial of Bangui Student Activists Continues *[AFP]* ..... S 1

CHAD

Reportage on Visit of French Defense Minister ..... S 1
Arrives 7 April ..... S 1
Grants Interview ..... S 1
Habre Holds Press Conference on Talks With Giraud ..... S 2

ZAIRE

Mokolo Receives Belgian Cooperation official ..... S 3

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

President Sankara Interviewed on Sahel Situation *[Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN 5-6 Apr]* ..... T 1

GHANA

Asamoah Leaves for Brazil, ANC Secretary Departs ..... T 2
Paper Condemns U.S. Policy, Notes Demonstrations *[GHANAIAN TIMES]* ..... T 2
Moroccan Envoy Arrives for Cooperation Talks ..... T 3
ANC Envoy Briefs Officials on Situation in RSA ..... T 3

LIBERIA

President Doe Signs Economic Policies Act ..... T 3
Government Considering Dialogue With Opposition *[AFP]* ..... T 3
Opposition Leaders Meet With Church Officials *[AFP]* ..... T 4
BBC Interviews Former Information Minister Karpeh ..... T 4

MALI

Moussa Traore Receives FRG Defense Delegation ..... T 4
France's Guy Penne Stops Over in Bamako ..... T 4

NIGERIA

Chief of Staff on Local Council Regulations ..... T 5
Servicemen May Participate in Politics in 1990 ..... T 5
Alien Control To Be Intensified Along Borders ..... T 5

SENEGAL

President Diouf Receives ECOWAS Delegation ..... T 5
France's Guy Penne Meets With Diouf, Comments ..... T 6

TOGO

France's Guy Penne Arrives, Meets With Eyadema ..... T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

LESOTHO

26 Officers Reported Arrested for Plotting Coup ..... U 1
BBC Provides Details ..... U 1

MALAWI

President Banda Speaks at Zomba Budget Meeting ..... U 1

MAURITIUS

Foreign Minister Denies Israeli Ties Imminent ..... U 2

NAMIBIA

SWAPO's Nujoma Interviewed on Independence ..... U 2
BBC Interviews SWAPO, SWANU, Government Officials ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Mandated Segregation Ends in Hotels, Restaurants ..... U 4
Arrests of Libyan-Trained 'Terrorists' Announced ..... U 5
STAR Publishes Interview With Winnie Mandela *[Johannesburg, 7 Apr]* ..... U 5
Nelson Mandela Said 'Shattered' by Death of Nephew ..... U 7
Police Detain UDF's Fazzie in Eastern Cape ..... U 7
Held for 'Investigation' ..... U 7
Johannesburg Blast Kills One, Injures Four ..... U 8
Further on Port Elizabeth Consumer Boycott ..... U 8
Unrest Flares on First Day ..... U 8
Jack: Unrest Not Linked to Boycott ..... U 9
Pretoria Boycott Extended to Indian Businesses ..... U 9
George Council Gives Deadline on Rent Payment ..... U 9
Eastern Cape Development Board Guards Attacked ..... U 9
Indaba Postponed, 'Little Progress' Seen ..... U 10
Violence Reported at Lamontville Schools *[Umtata]* ..... U 10
Student Dies From Wounds *[Umtata]* ..... U 10
Three Killed As Fighting Erupts in Natal ..... U 10
Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports ..... U 10
Late 8 April ..... U 10
Early 9 April ..... U 11
Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems ..... U 11

PLO Statement on Fighting in Palestinian Camps

JN081908 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

["Text" of statement issued by the PLO following the Executive Committee meeting in Baghdad on 7 April 1986 — read by announcer]

[Text] During its recent session in Baghdad, the PLO Executive Committee discussed the grave situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in light of the Israeli enemy's military escalation against these camps, including the Israeli air raids on our camps in 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Miyah wa Miyah, the brutal Israeli shelling of Lebanese villages, and the Israeli military raids on them. At the same time, the Amal Movement militias are continuing their war around our camps in Beirut for the 12th consecutive day in an increasingly barbaric manner.

Regrettably, this new conspiratorial attack against our camps is aimed at shedding Palestinian blood by these militias in implementation of the Zionist plan to strike at our Palestinian camps and spread differences following the escalation of the militant actions and the armed resistance to the Zionist enemy in the south and inside our occupied land. The attack is also aimed at preoccupying the PLO and the Lebanese nationalist and Islamic forces with these conflicts and clashes, which form new links in the conspiracy. We are confident that our people and their honest Lebanese nationalists, who are defending our kinfolk and camps in Lebanon, will continue to be steadfast in the face of this two-pronged, savage onslaught under the current difficult circumstances represented by factional fighting, the demographic divisions in Lebanon, and the plot to balkanize the region. We are also confident that the honest Lebanese nationalists, Islamic and allied forces will resolutely and strongly confront this new conspiracy aimed at all of us, Lebanese and Palestinians. We appeal to the honest forces in the Amal movement to face up to their national and pan-Arab responsibilities and stop this conspiracy and confront its planners.

The PLO appeals to all the Arab masses and the official Arab forces to support our civilian Palestinian kinfolk against this new aggression. What is happening cannot be accepted or ignored, and the shedding of Paestinian blood by these evil, agent forces should be confronted with the necessary strength and decisiveness in order to bury the discord, stop the bloodshed, and safeguard the souls of our Palestinian and Lebanese kinfolk from this new conspiracy being carried out by these agent militias. The PLO, at the same time, affirms that Israel's arrogance and the continuation of the Zionist aggression against our Palestinian camps, our kinfolk inside the occupied land, and the Lebanese villages will increase our determination to continue the struggle and step up the armed struggle against this Zionist enemy. Glory and immortality to our righteous martyrs. Long live our struggler masses. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The PLO Executive Committee.

On Israeli Raid on Sidon Camps

JN081710 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1643 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The PLO has appealed to all the Arab forces, officials, and mass organizations to stand by the Palestinian people to confront the new Zionist aggression against the Palestinian camps in Sidon, south Lebanon. In a statement issued after its executive committee meeting in Baghdad yesterday, the PLO said that the savage Zionist attack against Al-Miyah wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah camps yesterday will enhance the determination of the Palestinian fighters and strengthen them to escalate armed struggle against the Zionist enemy and confront all the agent forces, which seek to spill Palestinian blood.

Zionist enemy warplanes attacked Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp and the Sirub Mountain in southern Lebanon this morning. Our ground resistance confronted the enemy planes and forced them to retreat. The criminal raid wounded a number of Palestinian civilians.

Yesterday morning the enemy planes launched several criminal air raids against Al-Miyah wa Miyah Palestinian camp and the Sirub Mountain in southern Lebanon. Reports said that four F-16 planes escorted by two F-5 planes took part in these savage raids in three stages using firebombs. The first raid was carried out against the Sirub Mountain. Ten minutes later the planes attacked Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camp nearby. The third raid, which also took place 10 minutes later, was also aimed at the Sirub Mountain.

These savage raids martyred a number of Palestinian citizens and wounded others. They also inflicted severe material damage.

'Arafat on Israeli, Amal Attacks on Palestinians

JN081826 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] In a statement to *AL-TALI'AT AL-'ARABIYAH* magazine to be published next week, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] answered a question about the reasons for the two-pronged attack by Israeli aircraft and the Amal movement by saying: We should remember the Israeli threats represented by the enemy decision to change its policy toward the Palestinians in south Lebanon, Beirut, and all of Lebanon. He added: These continuous Israeli statements have exposed the failure of the Israeli enemy to confront the heroic military operations carried out by the joint Palestinian-national Lebanese forces who returned to carry out their duties like they did before the 1982 aggression.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: I recall that the enemy government admitted 81 operations in March 1985. He added: The escalation of these operations, in addition to Israel's failure to confront them, made Israel move its agents in the second border strip. It is known that the Israeli enemy established two security strips — the first is the Lahd strip and the second is the Amal-Dawud-Dawud strip. Abu 'Ammar continued: The enemy moved its agents in the second strip while it was strafing our camps in 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Miyah wa Miyah, as well as the Beirut camps

besieged by the Amal movement together with the 6th Brigade, in an attempt to preoccupy us with secondary battles. This was in implementation of the Israeli scheme to end the Palestinian presence as announced by the terrorist Sharon when he said that a half million Palestinians should be expelled from Lebanon to Jordan.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added: What is taking place in our Lebanon camps, whether it is the Amal movement or the Israeli air strafing, falls under the new Israeli plot against the joint forces and Palestinian presence. The most dangerous thing about this war around the camps is that it is taking place on direct orders from Israel.

Repeats Call for Arab Summit Soon

JN081835 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has reiterated his call for quickly convening an Arab summit. He said: The Arabs are facing many challenges that not only harm one country but the security of the entire Arab nation. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* today, brother leader Abu 'Ammar added: The heroic Palestinian people have foiled a conspiracy aimed at dividing them into Palestinians inside the occupied territory and Paelstinians outside the occupied territory. The Palestinian people stressed their adherence to the PLO, the sole legitimate representative.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The PLO supports Lebanon's unity and is not against any Arab role there, but it is against the attempt to contain and disarm the resistance.

On the Iraq-Iran war, the brother leader regretted that Iran had rejected all calls to stop the war, whose continuation greatly affects the Palestine cause.

PLO Official on Relations With Jordan

GF090745 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Apr (WAKH) — Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, former general political commissioner and current PLO representative in Cairo, has announced that all of the efforts to restore Jordanian-Palestinian coordination have not yet achieved any positive results.

In statement to a WAKH correspondent in Cairo, 'Abd al-Rahim said: "We hope that all of the Arab countries will act to stop the deterioration in the relations between Jordan and the PLO, in addition to the efforts currently being made by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq."

He affirmed that it is not a Jordanian-Palestinian dispute, but a Jordanian-Palestinian disagreement with U.S. policy which clings to the Israeli conditions designed to impose a capitulatory peace on the Arab region.

On the nature of Palestinian-Jordanian relations, the PLO representative stated that there was a signed agreement between the two sides which included definite and clear points — the principle of exchanging peace for land based on United Nations and UN Security Council resolutions; the clause pertaining to Jordan's acceptance that the Palestinian people would exercise their right to self-determination and the establishment of a confederation between two independent states, the Jordanian state and the Palestinian state; and the need for the PLO to attend an international conference to resolve the Middle East crisis.

'Abd al-Rahim warned that some parties are attempting to blame the PLO for the deadlock it has reached in its relations with Jordan, and are also attempting to drive matters to the point where the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is replaced by another agreement that serves U.S. demands and does not include self-determination for the Palestinian people.

He said: "We appeal to the brothers in Jordan to not be dragged behind such attempts. We desire to maintain special relations with Jordan and urge the brothers in Jordan to have a similar desire and determination to cling to these special relations."

The PLO representative in Cairo pointed out that activities are being pursued on Jordanian territory which suggest a tendency toward bringing about a break between Jordan and the PLO and between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

On relations between the PLO and Syria, the Palestinian official stated that the PLO wants to reconcile with Syria, but without preconditions.

'Abd al-Rahim, PLO representative in Cairo, affirmed that the PLO adopts a basic goal — the elimination of secondary disagreements among the Arab countries — so that all of these countries would devote themselves to confronting the principle issue represented by the Israel invasion and the continued policies of repression which the Israeli occupation authorities practice against Palestinians in the occupied territories and Lebanon.

Conflicting Reports on Fatah Rebellion in Jordan

GF091024 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0915 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Apr (WAKH) — There have been conflicting reports on a rebellion within PLO forces in Jordan concerning the control of the Al-Karamah camp near Al-Zarqa' in Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat's office in Amman by the supporters of Abu al-Za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah], one of the PLO leaders.

While Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has denied these reports, Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has stated that Abu al-Za'im has controlled the Al-Karamah camp and that the PLO leadership has decided to strip him of his military rank and to force him to retire with a number of his supporters.

The Dubayy-based newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today quotes Khalaf as saying that the decision to strip Abu al-Za'im of his military rank was made because he refused to leave Amman for Tunis on a summons from the commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution Forces.

Official Palestinian sources in Tunis have confirmed that the PLO leadership has actually halted payment of the salaries of the members of the Palestine Liberation Army stationed in Amman under the leadership of Colonel Na'im al-Khatib.

Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] told the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* that the salaries of the members of the Palestine Liberation Army were paid to them last week. Abu Jihad refused to comment on the events of the rebellion before 48 hours have passed.

Official Palestinian sources in Tunis have stated that the Jordanian authorities have refused to allow an envoy from Yasir 'Arafat to enter Jordan with a message for Abu Jihad and forced him to go back.

PLO Forces Report Anti-Israeli Operations

JN081847 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The military spokesman of the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following:

Our fighters operating inside the occupied homeland from the Martyr Kamal Nasir group threw hand grenades at an enemy military vehicle on the Al-Birah-Jerusalem highway. One of the hand grenades exploded inside the vehicle, killing or wounding all its occupants and severely damaging the vehicle.

The Zionist forces immediately imposed curfew on the area and began combing operations in search of the fighters, arresting a number of citizens in the process. Revolution until victory.
Signed: The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command.

The Palestinian spokesman also stated the following:

Our heroes operating inside the occupied homeland have continued to strike at the enemy's military and vital targets despite the state of extreme alert among the ranks of the Zionist security circles to face the escalating Palestinian military operations. At 0500 yesterday, explosive charges planted by our fighters from the Martyr Shakib group went off inside two bus stations, the first on Herzl Street and the second on the Hebron road in Jerusalem. The explosions destroyed a number of buses and caused grave material damage. Our heroes returned safely to base. Revolution until victory.

Signed: The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command.

The military spokesman also made the following statement.

While a Zionist frontier guard patrol was conducting a combing operation in the Al-Shati' camp in Gaza at 1030 the day before yesterday, our heroes from the Martyr Mahir al-Burnu group operating inside the occupied homeland attacked it with incendiary bombs. The attack damaged a jeep belonging to the frontier guard and wounded one. The fighters managed to withdraw from the scene successfully. Combing operations and harassment continued in the camp until yesterday morning. Several Palestinians were arrested under the pretext that they were connected with the operation.

PLO Radio Reports on Fighting in Sabra, Shatila

JN081919 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] For the 12th consecutive day, the militias of the agent Amal movement have been continuing their siege and their artillery and rocket attacks on the Palestinian Sabra and Shatila camps in the southern suburb of West Beirut. Reports from the camps area say that the Sabra and Shatila camps are suffering from a severe food and medicine shortage and that the brutal shelling had killed and wounded a number of Palestinian citizens, including women and children.

BAHRAIN

Further Reportage on U.S. Vice Presidential Visit

Foreign Minister on Talks

GF081605 Doha QNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Manama, 8 Apr (QNA) — Bahrain and the United States affirmed their interest and desire to cooperate in order to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran war.

This was stated by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, following the talks held today under the chairmanship of His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, and U.S. Vice President George Bush, who is currently visiting Manama.

In his statement carried by WAKH this afternoon, the Bahraini foreign minister said that the talks, which lasted 2 hours, dealt with the Iraq-Iran war and its impact on the region, in addition to the Middle East situation.

The Bahraini minister pointed out that the two sides also discussed the problem of oil prices and affirmed that the stability of the prices is in the interest of all concerned parties. In this regard he said: Bahrain is not an OPEC member but is in contact with its sisters, the GCC states, and hopes that a formula will be found to resolve this problem.

Shaykh Muahmmad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah stated that during the talks the Middle East situation was reviewed, as well as the peace operations and the results of mediations and solutions. He said: The United States is trying to find a successful formula for peace in the Middle East.

He talked about the Iraq-Iran war and said: We look seriously at this war as it is in its 6th year and is constantly escalating. We will step up our effforts to find a way to end it.

Concerning the shelling of tankers in the Arabian Gulf, the Bahraini minister pointed out that over 200 tankers have been hit since the beginning of the war and warned that the shelling of tankers will effect the freedom of navigation in this region. He said that in the end it will become an international problem and not only a Gulf problem. He called on the world countries to exert efforts to find a way to end the shelling of ships.

The Bahraini minister expressed his country's extreme concern over the Iraq-Iran war and its developments. He said: We in Bahrain and in the region as a whole are the ones harmed by this war. That is why we endeavored and will endeavor to establish peace based on justice and negotiations. He said: The GCC has a clear stand which is that the differences, particularly between neighbors, should be resolved through negotiations. We had previously expressed our readiness to mediate and we see that Iran should respond to these endeavors in order to reach a solution.

He talked about security of the Gulf and affirmed that the region's people are the first ones responsible for defending their interests with their capabilities. He pointed out the interests of various countries, including the United States, and said: We are endeavoring with the United States and various countries to keep the Gulf a region of peace. There is conformity of opinion on this point.

The Bahraini minister demanded that the United States take an acceptable positive stand on the Middle East cause and said: The United States should take the view of the two sides into consideration.

In his statement the Bahraini foreign minister stated that during the talks Bahrain and the United States expressed satisfaction over the development of relations between them.

He said that George Bush conveyed to His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan dealing with bilateral relations between the two countries.

Bush Holds Press Conference

GF081639 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush held a press conference at Al-Qudaybiah Palace this evening, attended by local journalists, Arab and foreign news agencies, and media representatives. The conference was also attended by the delegation accompanying George Bush, the U.S. ambassador to the state, and the U.S. press delegation accompanying the guest to the country.

The U.S. vice president began his press conference by expressing thanks and appreciation to his highness the amir for the hospitality and reception accorded to him by his highness and the state officials. He parised the accomplishments achieved by Bahrain in the economic field, stating that Bahrain has become an international financial and banking center. He referred to the two visits to the United States by his highness the amir and his highness the heir apparent and acting prime minister and the good results attained by these visits in consolidating relations between the two friendly countries. He also hailed Bahraini achievements in education and industry. Bush spoke about his current tour of a number of the countries of the region and its goals. He said that the United States supports GCC efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war through peaceful means. In his press conference, he referred to the discussions he held with his highness the amir which centered on bilateral relations and current Gulf, Arab, and international issues. He also answered questions from journalists on a number of current issues.

Further Details

GF082028 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1858 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Manama, 8 Apr (WAKH) — U.S. Vice President George Bush expressed his country's concern over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. He said that his country at present has no plan to end the Iraq-Iran war. In a press conference in Manama this evening he said that his country is not in a position to bring about a direct solution to the Iraq-Iran conflict, because the relations

of the United States with both countries have not been excellent for some years. He expressed his country's support for the efforts of the Arabian Gulf states to bring about a just solution to the Iraq-Iran war that safeguards the sovereignty of the two warring countries.

The U.S. vice president expressed his country's interest in the freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz. He said that the United States should persistently reiterate its policy regarding the freedom of navigation and the means of ending [word indistinct] of navigation and ships in the Strait of Hormuz.

Mr Bush refered to the tour made by the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs in the region and said that Murphy's visit to the region is in connection with a new move by his country to reach a settlement of the Palestinian issue. He added: We want to assist in peace in the Middle East as we did in the past. He hoped that the Palestinian problem will be solved as soon as possible so that these people can live in peace.

Concerning the current crisis in the international oil market, Bush said that his country's position toward the oil crisis is based on noninterference in the affairs of the oil market. He said that it is the duty of the oil-producing countries alone to take the necessary measures to restore stability in the oil market.

On his talks in Bahrain, Bush said: I discussed with His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

Says U.S. Will Defend Gulf

GF081747 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Manama, 8 Apr (WAKH) — U.S. Vice President George Bush said that his country will not hesitate to take any measure if there is a threat of navigation in the Arab Gulf.

This came in Mr Bush's address during his meeting at noon today with members of the American Businessmen's Association in Bahrain.

Mr Bush pointed out that the deterioration of oil prices on the world market has been greatly advantageous to his country, but he said that it created differences in views with other friendly countries.

The U.S. official lauded the development of trade relations between the United States and the Arab Gulf countries. He stated that Bahrain is considered a big financial center in the Arab Gulf.

Mr Bush is curently visiting Manama as part of his tour to a number of the region's countries; up to now he has visited Saudi Arabia.

He is expected to leave Manama tomorrow and will conduct a similar visit to Muscat and Sanaa.

Journal Criticizes U.S. Policy

GF081642 Manama SADA' AL-USBU' in Arabic 8 Apr 86 p 3

[Editorial by Chief Editor 'Ali Sayyar: "Yes, We Are Friends, But ..."]

[Text] With cordiality and welcome, Bahrain yesterday received U.S. Vice President George Bush who is visiting the region to acquaint himself with and meet officials. In sum, it may be said that Mr George Bush will see for himself how Bahrain loves the United States when he meets with officials in the country, foremost of whom is his highness the amir, who was a guest of the U.S. President 2 years ago. He will discover the depth of the bonds linking Bahrain with its friend, the United States. We hope that these bonds will become stronger day after day.

While we are refering to the strong friendship between the United States and Bahrain we believe that this friendship should be governed by the interests of the two friendly countries. On this basis Bahrain spared no efforts to express sincerely its respect for this friendship in the economic and trade fields and other fields. The political administration in this country never had doubts about this friendship.

While speaking about the duties of friendship we have to remember that the United States, whose vice president we have received cordially, has acted and is still acting in isolation from the disciplines which should govern its relations with its Arab friends. Moreover, regrettably, it intentionally goes two steps back when it feels that an Arab country intends to make a step forward toward it. This matter caused the Arabs to fall victim to contradictions in their national feelings due to the positions of the United States toward their issues, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. The Arabs become more sad and puzzled when they see that the United States is more concerned about the security and safety of Israel — their enemy which usurped their land — than the Israelis themselves. It is even a fact that some Arabs believe that there is nothing to expect from the United States due to its infrastructure and due to the Jewish element that dominates the financial and media fields and that consequently controls U.S. decisionmaking. These Arabs also believe that if Israel represents one side of the aggressive picture represented by the occupation of land, then the United States, which backs this occupation, represents the other side of this aggression.

In view of this assumption the United States cannot, even if it wants to, be just and fair in its relations with the Arabs. Therefore, it is necessarily unqualified to convince the Arabs of the credibility of its friendship with them, unless it departs from the circle of Israeli domination. This constitutes the most difficult figure in the equation of the Arab-U.S. relationship.

On the basis of this understanding, Bahrain welcomes and is cordially receiving its guest from the United States. While Bahrain wishes her grand guest a good stay, at the same time it hopes that this visit will be a good beginning for Arab-U.S. relations which are full of thorns and nails. It also hopes that our grand guest will understand the causes of the Arab pain which results from the trends of the unbalanced and unfair U.S. policy. After his return, he can relay to the American people a genuine

picture of the deep love we harbor for the United States and a genuine picture of our pain as we see our friend blessing and supporting Israel, which is exercising the role of a racketeer against the Arabs at their mutual borders and even outside its borders if necessary.

O grand guest, yes, we are friends, but ...

Bush Departs for Oman

GF090649 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0640 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Manama, 9 Apr (WAKH) — U.S. Vice President George Bush and the delegation accompanying him left Manama today for Muscat following a 3-day visit to Bahrain.

Foremost among those who saw him off was His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and acting prime minister.

During the visit, Bush held talks with senior Bahraini officials, foremost of whom was His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and the means to strengthen them, current developments in the Gulf region, the Middle East question, and the situation in the oil market.

KUWAIT

AL-SIYASAH on Aims of Bush Visit to Gulf

GF081700 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 7 Apr 86 pp 1, 22

[By the Arab affairs editor]

[Text] *AL-SIYASAH* has learned that the current tour to the Arabian Peninsula states by the second most important U.S. official in the U.S. Administration, U.S. Vice President George Bush, deals directly with two big events:

First is the visit that U.S. President Ronald Reagan will make to the Middle East at the end of this year or the beginning of next year. Second is the visit a high-ranking Gulf official will make to the Soviet Union following 'Id al-Fitr.

George Bush's current tour aims both to pave the way for the visit to the Middle East by President Ronald Reagan, and to get ahead of the Soviet efforts, which have increased recently, to expand relations with the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf states. These efforts resulted in extending an invitation to a high-ranking official in the region. It is being said that it has been decided that the visit in response to this invitation will take place during Ramadan.

It was leaked at the beginning of this year that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is preparing for a Middle East tour in early 1987. It was said that the U.S. Administration does not want its president to carry out this tour in the traditional way, whereby the president listens to the causes of the region from their leaders, then comes back to the White House to study what he heard and then make a decision on it.

In this sense it has become clear that the U.S. Administration is waiting for Bush to come back with a complete file on the views of the region's leaders on three basic issues — the Gulf war, the Palestinian cause, and the Lebanese war — so that when Reagan visits the region he will bring with him a complete U.S. plan that confines the aims of his tour to either acceptance or reservations about the plan.

Diplomatic sources following the current activities of the U.S. vice president in the region gave the impression that the "terrorism issue" is foremost among the responsibilities of George Bush and the priority of the basic preoccupations of the U.S. policy, particularly after it has become clear from the recent operations that U.S. interests in particular have become the target whether in European or Arab countries. A number of diplomats working in Washington said that the U.S. Administration intends to prepare an integrated plan to combat terrorism in the "free world," but fears that this idea will not find much acceptance considering that a number of the region's countries still have reservations on what Washington calls "red circles" of terrorism.

It seems that one of the goals of the U.S. vice president in his current tour is to learn about the points of disagreement and agreement between the region's states and Washington regarding U.S. handling of terrorism.

The upcoming U.S.-Soviet summit, initially set for next September, will focus mainly on the Middle East problem, after the two leaders, Reagan and Gorbachev, complete the discussion begun in their previous summit on the arms race and assigned to special committees. It is believed that President Reagan wants to enter the September summit with a complete concept on the details of the region's causes after the round of exchange visits expected to take place between certain Arab and Soviet officials during Ramadan.

Among these visits, it is being said in diplomatic circles, there is one that will be carried out in the autumn by a high-ranking Gulf official to Moscow.

The diplomatic sources pointed to a number of points on the agenda of the current tour of the U.S. vice president. These are the following: Oil, whether regarding the price war or insuring continuation of petrol from the Strait of Hormuz; the Iraq-Iran war, resisting any possibility of a geographic expansion of this war, and international and regional aid to end this war; the situation in the PDRY following the January events and the reflections of this situation regionally and internationally; and an attempt from George Bush to clarify the U.S. stand on the recent military confrontation between the 6th Fleet and the Libyan naval forces in the Gulf of Sidra.

Prime Minister Rejects Intervention in Region

GF041528 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 3 Apr 86 p 1

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, heir apparent and prime minister, has asserted that the direct and indirect

threats which are levelled against Kuwait in particular, and the countries of the region in general, no matter how long they continue or escalate, can never deter our people from proceeding along the path which they believe will provide for this generation, now and in the future, a plentitude of good.

In an address he made during an audience he granted to Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad, minister of information and chairman of the Higher Committee for Celebrating the National Day, and to the members of the committee and its subcommittees, his highness said: "I have great confidence in the cooperation of the citizens, and in the sense of responsibility which every one of them has in his field of work. I will not conceal from you the fact that we are in constant touch with our brothers in the GCC countries and our brothers in the other Arab countries. During the recent Arab League Council meeting in Tunis, we demonstrated to all of the brothers the extent of the danger which threatens the region now and in the future, and we appealed to everyone to shoulder their responsibility. We found complete willingness and responsiveness from the brothers."

His Highness the heir apparent and prime minister said: "We are, of course, currently following the continuation and escalation of the war between the two Muslim neighbors, Iraq and Iran. Doubtlessly, you have closely followed and continue to follow the efforts made by Kuwait, along with its sister countries, to arrive at a formula to end this war. We have not lost hope and continue to seek such a formula. It has become clear to numerous countries in the world that the brothers in Iraq announced more than once that they are perfectly willing to accept a ceasefire and begin a constructive dialogue with the Iranian officials to draw up a formula to halt the war and resolve the problems which caused the conflict that has turned into a destructive war. We still hope that the Iranian authorities will respond to peace efforts."

His highness added: "Proceeding from our desire for the continued security and stability of the region and from the desire not to provide the opportunity for a third party to intervene in the region's affairs, we wish to maintain good and strong relations with all countries. This, however, does not mean that we accept granting any country the right to control the region. The people of the region must be left to discuss their present and future affairs without direct or indirect intervention."

Paper Criticizes USSR Middle East Policy

GF081738 Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Manama, 8 Apr (WAKH) — A Kuwaiti daily Tuesday accused the Soviet Union of following a "double standard" policy in the Middle East and other world hot spots.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM said Arabs in the Middle East are more than anyone else being affected by the "double standards" of the Soviet political and military acts in the region.

On the Middle East problem, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* said the Soviet call for holding an international conference of the Middle East is becoming "very suspicious."

"Moscow's enthusiasm for holding the conference is subsiding and lacking seriousness," said *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* in pointing out that "the Kremlin realizes that it will lose foothold in the region as soon as the Middle East problem is solved."

"The Soviets are now proving their double standard policies towards the Arabs and the Israelis...by exporting Jews to Israel," the newspaper maintained.

OMAN

Vice President Bush Arrives in Muscat 9 Apr

GF090917 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Oman today for a 2-day visit. During the visit, he will meet with His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id.

On arrival, the guest was accorded an official reception. The U.S. Vice President was received by His Highness Thuwayni ibn Shihab, the special representative of his majesty the sultan of Oman; members of the honorable royal family; ministers; under secretaries; senior officers of the Sultan's Armed Forces and the Omani Sultan's police; and the U.S. ambassador to Oman.

PDRY

Aden Radio Criticizes George Bush's Gulf Tour

GF081627 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[From the "News and Reports" program]

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush is currently on a 1-week tour of the Middle East and the Arab Gulf region. Observers note that Bush's current tour was preceded by a similar tour by Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, who described the real nature of his tour in a statement, claiming that the region's countries will be subjected to aggression and that Washington is ready to repel this aggression, since this threatens its interests in the region. The observers said that the region's countries and their peoples know very well that the source of aggression, in all phases and at all times, was planned by the U.S. Administration and its allies in NATO and that the kindling of fire in more than one region in the Middle East was a result of U.S. rashness which became more fierce during Reagan's first and second presidential term.

The U.S. military and political actions in the region are resuming in a way which concerns the region's peoples, who know very well the purpose of the U.S. envoys' tours.

In this regard, the newspaper *14 OCTOBER* today said the region's peoples know that the visits of the U.S. envoys, regardless of the time which they pick to visit the region's countries, are

within the framework of the imperialist U.S. strategy to impose hegemony and to control the region's countries, under false slogans of friendship, joint interests, and economic relations, in addition to other U.S. claims.

The paper pointed out that the Pentagon's strategy, as announced by more than one country in the region, is designed to achieve short and long-term goals. The paper said: If we go back a while, we see that statements were made warning Washington against interfering in the region's affairs and calling for keeping the region far from foreign military interference. The paper affirmed that Washington's designs will not find their way to our region, because the region's countries and peoples are alert to the plans, carried by Bush, which hint of aggression arranged by Washington alone.

The observers who follow the U.S. envoys' tours in the region say that they do not expect the region's countries will be dragged into a plan in which Washington wants them to be involved since the results of such a plan when implemented will lead to disaster and the region's countries will find that they are the first ones to pay the price.

The observers affirmed that the main U.S.-Zionist goal behind all those moves is to strike the Arab generations that confront Washington's policy by strength and determination. Good proof of this is the recent U.S. aggressions against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Foreign Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador
GF081408 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, met with USSR Ambassador in Aden Comrade Vladislav Pelrovich Zhukov in his office today. During the meeting, bilateral relations and the means to develop them were discussed. Also reviewed was the international situation of mutual concern.

Economic Talks With USSR Resume in Aden
GF081723 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Economic talks between the PDRY and the USSR resumed today at the Finance Ministry. The PDRY side was chaired by brother Mahmud Sa'id Madhi, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of finance, while the Soviet side was chaired by Comrade (Nagov Sarvektor) member of the USSR State Planning Committee [as heard] and head of the Soviet economic delegation. During the meeting, a number of economic cooperation issues between the PDRY and the Soviet Union and the trends of their development were discussed.

The subcommittees resumed their meetings today to discuss Yemeni-Soviet cooperation issues in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, energy, oil and minerals, and geology.

SAUDI ARABIA

Paper Views Basic Issues of Fahd-Bush Talks
GF090631 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 9 Apr 86

[From the press review]

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz emphasized three basic issues to U.S. Vice President George Bush during the Saudi-U.S. talks 2 days ago. These three issues are affirming the Kingdom's constant stand on the Palestinian question, concentrating on the need to halt the Iraq-Iran war, and expounding the Kingdom's permanent stand on achieving a balanced oil market.

Concerning this matter, the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* asserts that these issues are basic and well-known foundations of the Kingdom's policies. The paper says that his majesty the king's affirmations are a reiteration of his majesty's previous stands concerning the causes of the Arab and Islamic nations, for which he has worked with total perserverances, and for whose sake he has made material and moral contributions worthy of pride and gratitude.

In conclusion, the paper says: The Kingdom's clear stands concerning the issues discussed with His Execellency George Bush and the frankness with which this was done, makes it the responsibility of the United States to understand these issues and to act seriously toward contributing to their solution, as the U.S. vice president has promised to do.

Israel's Eban Presents Peres Message to Mubarak

TA071640 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Abba Eban, chairman of the Israeli Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, met today in Cairo with President Husni Mubarak and presented him with a personal message from Israeli Prime Minister Peres. Eban conferred today also with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid, Minister of State Butrus Ghali, and Presidential Adviser Usamah al-Baz. Eldad Beck, the Arab affairs correspondent, asked Abba Eban about the Egyptian reaction to the content of the prime minister's message:

[Begin Eban recording] Egypt first reaffirmed unequivocal and steadfast adherence to the peace treaty. All my interlocutors, particularly the president, described the peace treaty as one of the cornerstones of Egypt's political strategy. Second, they expressed their desire to move out of the stalemate. In other words, they were in agreement with the message I delivered from the prime minister on our desire not to accept the deadlock and instead imbue the peace process with new life. [end recording]

Concludes Visit, Departs 8 Apr

NC082137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Apr (MENA) — Abba Eban, former Israeli foreign minister and Israeli Labor Party member, left Cairo tonight at the end of a 2-day visit, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak. While in Egypt Abba Eban held talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, as well as with a number of other senior Egyptian officials.

People's Assembly Statement on Libyan Visit

NC081320 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Apr (MENA) — The People's Assembly held a meeting this mornign chaired by Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub. The Assembly approved a statement issued by its Arab affairs, foreign affairs, and defense committees in response to reports published in yesterday's newspapers on statements allegedly made by the Socialist Labor Party leader during his visit to Libya and on the contents of the joint communique issued following the visit.

The People's Assembly statement says that peace is a firm, strategic option to which the Egyptian people have given their consent. All of Egypt's wars were aimed at establishing a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the region and at securing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination on their national soil. Egypt will not be a link in the chain of a strategy dictated by others, nor will it be a guardian of the interests of any state, no matter how big.

The statement notes that as has been stated before, no one in Egypt can allow a foreign state to attack a brotherly Arab state. Egypt's position is based on a deep faith that any aggression against a brotherly Arab country weakens overall Arab strength. Egypt adheres to international law, which rejects the use of force in resolving international conflicts.

The statement stresses that the Egyptian people are standing guard against anyone who plans to injure their pride, undermine their regime, or insult their dignity, no matter who this aggressor may be.

The statement explains that any claim that the Camp David agreements have left Egypt out of the arena of Arab struggle is inadmissible. Egypt has not left the Arab ranks, nas not concluded a separate peace, and the Egyptian people remain the heart of the Arab nation.

The Egyptian people have always proven their loyalty to Arabism and their responsibility toward their nation. They will continue to shoulder their national responsibilities toward and commitments to the Arab nation's causes, despite all the attempts by the auctioneers and pseudo-heroes of steadfastness and confrontation. Egypt's adherence to its contractual and international obligations does not jeopardize its pan-Arab obligations.

The statement expresses support for President Husni Mubarak's wise policy, which receives full popular support. The statement also indicates that the parties may disagree with each other, but they all agree on Egypt's supreme objectives at home and abroad.

Economy Minister on Debts to Soviet Union

NC090402 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Apr (MENA) — Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, has stated that the recent economic decisions made by the Egyptian Government come within the framework of the government's program to tackle existing economic problems. These problems include the budget deficit, a deficit in the balance of trade, and the need to eliminate administrative and bureaucratic restrictions.

Replying to a question presented during an interview with Radio London today on the problem of Egypt's debts to the Soviet Union, Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali said that the two countries have exchanged views on this issue and that both have presented constructive proposals. This issue, he added, is linked to the problem of foreign debt now facing all countries. If a solution to this problem is to be found, then world arrangements and constructive proposals by all parties are required, not only in the interests of developing countries, but also in the interest of the entire world and its economy.

The minister of economy and foreign trade, who has recently visited the Soviet Union, said that the annual volume of trade between the two countries has reached approximately 600 million pounds sterling in exports and imports. He affirmed that his talks with Soviet officials were held in a cordial atmosphere. There was also agreement that the two parties would meet again within 1 or 2 months, he added.

Liberal Socialists Renounce Camp David Accord

NC081525 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Apr (MENA) — Mustafa Kamil Murad, leader of the opposition Liberal Socialist Party, held a news conference

today at which he announced that his party will honor an earlier decision to withdraw its approval [sahb muwafaqatih] of the Camp David accords in light of Israel's continued measures against Arabs and Palestinians.

Murad cited Israel's attack on an Iraqi nuclear reactor, its invasion of Lebanon, its practices in the occupied Arab territories, and the stumbling course of the Tabah talks as reasons for his party's decision. He denied that his party's renouncement of the Camp David accords is due to pressure from the Muslim Brotherhood Group, some of whose leaders have lately joined the party.

It is worth mentioning that the Liberal Socialist Party does not have any representatives at the People's Assembly since it failed to secure a minimum percentage of votes during the recent parliamentary elections. Salah Abu Isma'il, member of the People's Assembly [and a Muslim Brotherhood member], recently joined the party as a deputy leader. He therefore became the only party member with a seat in the People's Assembly.

During his news conference today, Murad called on Egyptian political parties to try and heal the rift existing in the Arab ranks, regardless of the difficulties and the stands taken or statements made by the Arab regimes. He also welcomed the visit which Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor party, paid to Libya, as well as his intention to visit Syria.

Czechoslovakia To Help Finance New Power Plant

NC072107 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 7 Apr (MENA) — The Czechoslovak Government has expressed its willingness to finance the establishment of an electricity generating plant in Talkha that would have a capacity of 250,000 kilowatts per hour. The plant, which would be powered by natural gas, is part of a strategy to diversify sources of energy production.

Engineer Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, made this announcement after his meeting today with the Czechoslovak ambassador in Cairo, Slavomir Novak. He said that the ambassador had conveyed his government's approval to allocate $60 million out of a $100 million easy-credit loan given to the Egyptian Government to implement the building of a power plant. The construction of such a plant is part of the ministry's 5-year plan.

The minister added that agreement had also been reached during the meeting on how to use a $20 million loan previously given by the Czechoslovak Government. Of this amount, $5 million will be used to repair and modernize the gas-generated Al-Siyuf power plant in Alexandria, $6 million will be used for the Talkha power plant, and $9 million will be used to increase the operating capacity of the Kafr al-Dawwar power plant.

Bulgarian Envoy on 60 Years of Diplomatic Ties

NC080406 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo, 7 Apr (MENA) — Bulgaria has declared its support for the idea of holding an international conference on peace in the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations and in which all concerned parties will take part, including the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Veliko Enchev, the Bulgarian ambassador in Cairo, made this statement at a press conference he held today to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Bulgaria.

The ambassador praised Egyptian-Bulgarian relations, describing them as having a historic nature. He said that the volume of trade between the two countries had reached $85 million last year.

The joint Egyptian-Bulgarian committee will meet in Sofia at the end of April, he added. He also expressed the hope that bilateral relations in the areas of culture and information would be increased and strengthened.

The Bulgarian ambassador underlined the need for a complete Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem. A basis for solving the Middle East problem, he emphasized, can be found in allowing the Palestinian people to obtain their legitimate rights and establish an independent state, and by protecting the right of neighboring countries to live in peace.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, he stated that his country is extremely worried by the continuation of a conflict which only harms the interests of both countries and threatens their resources.

Concerning the problem of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria, the ambassador denied reports about the destruction of mosques. He also denied that Muslims are being persecuted and forced to change their names.

Jordan's Health Minister Arrives on Visit

NC072125 Cairo MENA in English 1615 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo April 7 (MENA) — Jordanian Minister of Health Dr. Zayd Hamzah arrived here this afternoon on a four-day official visit to Cairo at the invitation of Dr Hilmi al-Hadidi, minister of health.

The Jordanian minister said on arrival that he will seize this opportunity to review the achievements of the Ministry of Health and to discuss means of stepping up cooperation between the two countries in the health field.

Saddam Husayn Exchanges Cables With Soviet Leaders

JN090853 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Apr (INA) — Comrade Saddam Husayn, secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and president of the Republic, has exchanged congratulations with the Soviet leaders on the 14th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

In a cable to Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade Saddam Husayn said: On the occasion of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union it gives us pleasure to send you and the friendly Soviet people our warmest congratulations and best wishes. On this important occasion we would like to emphasize our desire to bolster and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries, relations based on the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. We are firmly confident that our relations, which are based on the principles of mutual respect and the common interests of our peoples, will be bolstered and developed in the service of the common objectives of our two peoples and in a manner that will bolster the principles of peace and justice in the world and in our region in particular.

Comrade Saddam Husayn has also received a cable on this occasion from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Council of Ministers. The cable said: On the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Iraq, we send you and the friendly Iraqi people our congratulations and best wishes. The conclusion of this treaty has established a good foundation to continue developing the Soviet-Iraqi relations in accordance with the principles of equality, mutual respect of the sovereignty of countries, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

We are confident that fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq will continue for the welfare of the two peoples and in the service of peace and just political settlement of regional conflicts.

Congratulates Bulgaria's Todor Zhivkov

JN081550 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Cable from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Bulgarian Communist Party Secretary Todor Zhivkov — date not given]

[Text] Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party: On your reelection as general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party, I am pleased to send you in my own name and on behalf of my comrades in the Iraqi leadership heartfelt congratulations, wishing you health and happiness, the friendly Bulgarian people further progress, and the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples continued progress and growth.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, secretary of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Republic of Iraq.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Communique No 2,180

JN081641 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Communique No 2,180 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 April 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing their activities with high combat ability and overwhelming superiority over the forces of aggression. The following is a roundup of oeprations for last night and today:

1. Four enemy planes attempted to penetrate our international border in tme VII Army Corps front at 1513 [1113 GMT] today. A formation of our heroic Air Force planes intercepted the enemy planes and with God's help and their well-known skill and courage, our brave pilots shot down two of the four planes, the first an F-14 and the second an F-4. They exploded in midair and were seen falling as burning wreckage.

We affirm that our bold Air Force apparatus possesses the ability and means to defend our international borders, both in the west and in the east, against all hostile penetration. Support comes from God.

2. An enemy force attempted to advance toward our positions in the VII Army Corps sector, but our splended men confronted it, killing a number of men and forcing the others to flee. Seven Kalashnikov rifles and one medium-caliber machinegun were captured. Elsewhere in the same sector, our forces killed 10 enemy men and destroyed 1 launcher, 4 81-mm mortars, 3 60-mm mortars, 1 excavator, 7 ammunition dumps, 2 vehicles, and 10 infantry positions.

3. An enemy force tried to advance toward our forward units in the East Maysan operational sector under the IV Army Corps, but our fighters opened fire, forcing the enemy force to retreat and flee after suffering losses in men and armaments. Elsewhere int he same sector, five enemy men were killed and one 106-mm gun, one vehicle, and one infantry position were destroyed.

4. Using artillery and other weapons, our fighters in the northern operational sector under the I Army Corps killed a group of enemy personnel estimated to be an infantry section and destroyed two vehicles, two observation posts, and one ammunition dump.

5. The forces of charlatanism and buffoonery shelld Khanaqin and Halabjah with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 April 1986

Loss of Aircraft Denied

JN082017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Apr (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that it shot down two Iraqi planes. In a statement to INA tonight, the spokesman said that all Iraqi planes that flew combat missions [word indistinct] at the front against the Iranian forces returned safely to base. Iran had earlier cliamed that [words indistinct] two Iraqi planes.

'Large Maritime Target' Attacked

JN090641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Apr (INA) — The Iraqi Navy delivered an accurate and effective strike at a large maritime target near the Iranian coast last night. A military spokesman told INA this morning that the strike was carried out at 2300 [1900 GMT] yesterday and that all naval untis returned safely to base after carrying out their duty.

Mansour Interviewed, Denies Role in TWA Bombing

LD081929 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The German police are reported to have established a link between the Berlin attack and the one which caused the death of four passengers of the TWA Boeing enroute from Rome to Athens. The woman suspected of having planted the bomb on board the aircraft continues to plead not guilty.

Our special correspondent, Philippe Chafonjon, has met this woman, May Elias Mansour, a pro-Syrian Lebanese activist, in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, where she has a boutique.

[Chafonjon] May Elias Mansour has been an active militant of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [PSNS] since 1970. People here say that she has undertaken operations, but this time, she tells me, she had nothing to do with it. She shows a small handbag and a string bag which she says is all she had in the airplane. She asks: Where would I have put the bomb? That is impossible to check. Then, making a great effort since she has not spoken French for 25 years, since she was at school, she reaffirms that she is innocent of what she is accused.

[Begin recording] [Mansour] It is not I, it is not I, it is not I.

[Chafonjon] Why then, in your opinion, are you being accused?

[Mansour] I do not know.

[Chafonjon] Because you are Lebanese?

[Mansour] Yes, because I am May Elias Mansour.

[Chafonjon] The police say that you occupied the seat in the airplane where the bomb exploded. That is why they say it was you who did it.

[Mansour] That was chance.

[Chafonjon] The police wonder why you went from Cairo to Beirut. That is why they find it suspicious.

[Mansour] Because there is no direct service from Cairo to Beirut.

[Chafonjon] That is why you made that journey?

[Mansour] Yes.

[Chafonjon] The Greek police would like to question you. Are you will to go to Greece, or for them to come here to Tripoli?

[Mansour] They should come here, they should come here.

[Chafonjon] So you you agree to permit the Greeks to come and question you here in Tripoli?

[Mansour] I am in Tripoli. [end recording]

12 Killed in Blast Outside Sabena Office

NC091012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] AFP cites a Belgian Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that a violent explosion took place this morning in front of the Beirut office of the Belgian airlines, Sabena. The blast left 12 people dead.

The spokesman reported that a booby-trapped car exploded, killing 12 passersby and wounding a number of the office's Lebanese employees. The spokesman added that the Sabena office was seriously damaged.

Explosion Occured 'Yesterday'

LD091134 Brussels Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] At about 1115 we received a communique from the Ministry of External Affairs announcing that a violent explosion had occurred this morning in front of the Sabena offices in Beirut. This explosion actually took place yesterday evening, [as heard] and we spoke about it at some length. Twelve people were killed in the attack, and some members of the Sabena staff, who were slightly injured, have already left the hospital.

French National Kidnapped in Beirut 9 Apr

LD091023 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] We have just received a telegram from Beirut saying that a teacher at the French Protestant College in West Beirut, Michel Briand, was kidnapped this morning by armed men while he was walking to the college. The French Embassy immediately requested the Lebanese Government intervene to obtain his release.

Soviet Ambassador Reportedly Returns to Beirut

NC081722 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Aleksandr Soldatov, the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon, has returned to Beirut after an absence of more than 6 months.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Husyan Note of Support

NC081425 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Diplomatic sources have revealed that President Amin al-Jumayyil has received a written message from King Husayn of Jordan in response to one which he had sent on 5 March. In his message, King Husayn pledged Jordan's support for the efforts being made by President al-Jumayyil to save Lebanon, restore peace throughout his country, achieve national reconciliation among all factions of the Lebanese people, and safeguard Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty.

King Husayn wished Al-Jumayyil the best of luck in his efforts for Lebanon's welfare and in his attempts to regain Lebanon's vitality and its distinguished Arab role. The king affirmed that Jordan has been doing its best to help Lebanon surmount its crisis. The king said that Jordan is acting on its conviction that any solution should be compatible with the supreme interests of Lebanon and acceptable to all its factions. The king also pledged his country's support for Lebanon in its bid to restore the south to Lebanese sovereignty and to end the Israeli occupation there.

Junblatt Leaves for Damascus To Meet Khaddam
NC082024 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Walid Junblatt left for Damascus this afternoon where he will meet with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Amal leader Nabih Birri. The three will discuss various Lebanese and regional issues.

After meeting with Khaddam today, Nabih Birri said that their discussion had been a long one due to the diversity of the issues reviewed. Among these issues, he noted, were the Palestinian problem and conditions in Lebanon, particularly in the south. Birri added that the two men had held identical opinions with regard to most of the topics discussed.

During his stay in the Syrian capital, Birri said that he will meet with several Syrian officials, including Major General Hikmat al-Shihabi, as well as with some leaders of the Palestinian National Salvation Front.

RFL Accuses Syria of Committing Juniyah 'Crime'
NC081915 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] We all know whose criminal hand is covered with the blood of innocent people. It is the hand of Syria and its tools, who continue to pursue innocent citizens in their homes and the streets. It is the hand of Syria and its tools which has planned and implemented the new crime which took place today in the Juniyah City Square, claiming the lives of a number of citizens. It has become evident that these terrorist and criminal actions have not and will not weaken the steadfastness of the Christian society despite the accumulation of victims.

The aim of terrorism and crime is to put pressure on the will of Christians in an attempt to achieve what cannot be achieved through other means. We affirm that this type of pressure has never shaken the Christians' steadfastness despite years of war, and it will not do so now. Homelands are only built through sacrifices.

The explosion occurred in the city center at a time when the area was full of people pursuing their livelihood and students leaving the schools.

Today's Syrian crime coincided with a statement made by Rif'at al-Asad, Syrian vice president and the primary opponent of his brother's regime, condemning recent terrorist operations in the world. He described such actions as being cowardly and repugnant and threatening the lives of the innocent. It is known that Rif'at al-Asad now resides in Paris, the center of opposition to the Syrian regime.

The explosion has left 11 martyrs and 100 wounded. Four buildings have also collapsed and a large number of vehicles have been burned.

Franjiyah on New Plan for Political Solution
NC081148 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] In his weekly news conference at his palace in Zgharta, former President Sulayman Franjiyah has disclosed that a draft plan for a political solution exists and will be presented now that northern Lebanon has become united. He said that the plan will guarantee a return to normal life for all Lebanon and an end to the fighting, whether the Israeli agents like it or not. Asked if he intends to cooperate with Ministers Birri and Junblatt, the former president replied: Such a possibility exists. I can even go so far as to say that this cooperation exists to solve the Lebanese issue and to enable the Lebanese citizen to return to normal life as soon as possible, God willing.

Army Major 'Assassinated' in West Beirut
NC090709 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Security sources have just reported that gunmen assassinated Major Amin Qasim in front of the Druze community headquarters in Verdun [in West Beirut] this morning. The motives behind the killing are not yet known. The security forces have begun an investigation to uncover the circumstances surrounding the incident.

British Embassy Asks Nationals To Leave Beirut
NC090615 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Yesterday the British Embassy in Lebanon repeated its advice that British nationals should leave Beirut unless they are engaged in very urgent matters.

Amal Opposes Shi'ite Muslim Republic in South
TA060710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 6 Apr 86

[Text] It is assessed in southern Lebanon that the Syrian-backed Amal organization will be able to curb radicalization tendencies among the Shi'ites in the region. Our correspondent has learned that a group of Shi'ite clergymen from southern Lebanon has recently visited Tehran and signed there a pact for the establishment of a Muslim republic in Lebanon, first in southern Lebanon. In the talks Iran promised ideological and financial aid and has already sent envoys to Lebanon to coordinate actions involved. Our correspondent says that despite the assessments that the

Amal organization will be able to prevent these developments, it is feared that the Hizballah clergymen will try to initiate demonstrative terrorist acts in the security zone.

Junblatt Men Attack Bsaba, Clash With Sunnites

NC080840 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Reports received today by Voice of Lebanon [VOL] indicate that a terrible massacre occurred in the town of Bsaba in Al-Shuf Province last night, following a fierce attack carried out along several of Bsaba's combat lines by Junblatt gunmen, large numbers of whom surrounded the town. Security sources told VOL this morning that a quarrel had broken out between Junblatt gunmen from the Al-Ba'ayni family and other gunmen from the town of Bsaba yesterday afternoon. As a result, two Junblatt gunmen were killed. Their colleagues then withdrew from the village through the Al-Shuf farm and [word indistinct].

The sources added that about 100 Junblatt men attacked the town before midnight after sealing off the roads. They stormed a large number of homes belonging to the Al-'Akum and Mashmushah families, setting the houses on fire. At least 10 people were killed. The inhabitants then left the town in droves, but a number of them fell in ambushes laid in the neighboring woods.

Informed sources in West Beirut said this morning that ranking officials in the mufti's office, spiritual leaders of the Druze community, and Progressive Socialist Party officials promptly met last night to contain the possible consequences. The sources added that in the early hours of the morning, the town is empty of inhabitants, who have taken refuge in neighboring villages. Columns of smoke are still rising from a large number of houses.

Many incidents between Junblatt gunmen and the Sunnites as a result of the siege imposed by Junblatt men have been reported in the province, particularly in Shihin and Barja.

13 Sunnites, 2 Druze Killed

NC080914 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Junblatt gunmen continue their siege of Bsaba in Al-Kharrub Province. This morning they prevented the internal security forces from entering the town.

Security sources report that 13 Sunnites and 2 Druze were killed in yesterday's clashes between Sunnites from the Al-'Akum and Mashmushah families in Bsaba, and Junblatt gunmen from the Al-Shuf farm.

Junblatt gunmen attacked Bsaba last night, killing a number of residents and setting fire to their property. Townspeople have left and taken refuge in neighboring villages.

This morning, a Junblatt source said that two people in the Al-Shuf farm had been ambushed in Bsaba and killed. The source said that those who carried out the ambush also killed the head of the Progressive Socialist Party section in Bsaba. The first two Junblatt men to be killed have been identified as 'Umar and Salim al-B'ayni.

Junblatt Mourns Victims in Bsaba Incident

NC081709 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Efforts to deal with the situation which developed in Bsaba last night as the result of a regrettable but isolated incident have been successful. The initial incident led to a clash which resulted in several casualties. At the instructions of Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], the appropriate officials were able to contain and resolve the incident.

Junblatt and the Druze spiritual leader Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra both participated in the funeral held for two of the victims in Mazra'at al-Shuf. A delegation composed of Bsaba residents also attended. A joint delegation of Bsaba and Iqlim al-Kharrub residents visited Al-Mukhtarah and met with PSP Secretary General Anwar al-Fatayri.

Speaking at the funeral ceremony, Junblatt said: It was my wish to make this brief speech. A great calamity has hit Mazra'at al-Shuf and Bsaba, located in the Al-Shuf region. There are only two possible responses to a calamity. The first and best one is for those who have been affected to resort to reason. I think that we all believe in this by virtue of our religion, creed, ethics, and history. The second response is to revert to ignorance and instinct. What happened has happened. There are various reasons for death, but all death is the same. We now possess a certain amount of information about what has happened. If we allow instinct to prevail, then the next calamity will be even greater. I just wanted to say these few words. What has happened happened. Tomorrow we will bury the dead in Bsaba in accordance with the Sunna of God and his Prophet. We all act according to the Sunna of God and his Prophet. In Mazra'at al-Shuf, Bsaba, Iqlim al-Kharrub, and Al-Shuf, we are one community. Please pay attention. If, God forbid, the closest people to me, Taymur and Aslan, were one day to disturb the unity of our ranks, then I would kill them myself. I repeat: If Taymur and Aslan commit an offense, then I will kill them myself. I want you to understand this.

A meeting was also held at Government House. It was chaired by Prime Minister Rashid Karami and attended by Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, Dr Husayn al-Quwwatli, and a delegation from Bsaba. After the meeting, Dr Husayn al-Quwwatli read the following statement:

It has become clear that what has happened happened among members of the same party, the same area, and the same cause. There were no religious implications involved. Differences arose with regard to a party issue. Each side then received support from others. What happened had nothing to do with national, religious, or confessional matters in any way whatsoever.

Following the departure of the Bsaba delegation, Karami and Dr al-Quwwatli held a 30-minute meeting with Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt. After the meeting, Hamadah made a statement on behalf of himself and Khalid Junblatt. He said: What happened yesterday between certain residents of Bsaba

and Mazra'at al-Shuf was simply a dispute among members of the same group, the same party, and, I can say, the same family. The victims, blood, and calamity are ours. PSP leader Walid Junblatt, party officials, and all allied and friendly forces and leaders have taken appropriate disciplinary, compensatory, and political measures. The incident is regarded as closed. The enemies of the homeland and the agents of Israel will not be allowed to exploit it.

Amal, Palestinians Continue To Clash 8 Apr

NC081344 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Tension between Amal Movement personnel and Palestinians still prevails. Intermittent clashes are taking place and accusations continue to be exchanged. According to the latest reports, which reached us at approximately 1300, the two parties are engaged in fighting involving the use of machineguns and RPG-7 rockets. Clashes involving the use of medium- and heavy-caliber machienguns and rockets took place this morning along the Hayy Farhat, Al-Dukhah, Ard Jallul, Al-Sharq movie theater, and Sabra southern entrance combat lines. The area around the Kuwaiti Embassy continues to remain tense due to sniper fire.

Resistance Front Claims Kawkaba Suicide Attack

NC082043 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The Lebanese National Resistance Front carried out a suicide operation this afternoon against the Armored Forces Command Headquarters of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in Kawkaba, about 5 km west of Hasbayya. As a result of the operation, the headquarters building was destroyed and about 15 militiamen and civilians were killed or wounded.

According to preliminary details about the operation, a resistance member in a white Mercedes 200 stormed the command headquarters and armored forces base of agent Lahd in Kawkaba. The vehicle rammed the entrance to the building and exploded. The explosion destroyed the headquarters building, five armored vehicles, and three civilian vehicles. The preliminary reports also noted that approximately 15 people, including 5 civilians, were killed or wounded in the operation.

The Israeli occupation forces closed all the crossing points leading to the south and declared a curfew in the occupied Hasbayya area. Civil defense and Red Cross teams evacuated the casualties to the Marj 'Uyun Hospital and the Red Cross center in Hasbayya. As of 1930, one dead and seven wounded were counted at the Red Cross center in Hasbayya, while three dead and four wounded were at the Marj 'Uyun Hospital.

In another development, resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge near an agent Lahd militia patrol in 'Aytarun, about 7 km north of Bint Jubayl. The explosion destroyed a vehicle and wounded two Lahd militiamen.

Further Details

JN082043 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] In honor of our great party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and its struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad, the Lebanese hero Haydar Haydar Qays from the Al-Hirmil area in Lebanon and one of the party's strugglers, today joined the martyrs of the Lebanese national resistance. He has recorded with his blood a new page of honor in the Arab nation's struggle against the Zionist enemy and its allies in Lebanon. Hero Haydar Qays this morning stormed the Kawkabah military camp, which houses Zionist enemy forces and agent Lahd forces in the Hasbayyah area. He was driving a Mercedes that was carrying 300 kg of explosives.

The heroic operation destroyed a two-story building in the camp housing 35 Zionist occupation forces soldiers and Lahd elements. Three tanks, three jeeps, and a truck were also destroyed.

The Zionist enemy and agent Lahd forces clamped a tight siege on the area to play down this heroic operation. They also stormed houses. Reports from the south say that a state of panic and horror has gripped the enemy and its agents.

Rif'at al-Asad Condemns Acts of Terrorism

JN081810 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] In a statement to AFP in Paris today, Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad said he considers terrorist operations cowardly acts. He said that acts of terrorism are cowardly, disgusting, and revolting deeds because they threaten innocent lives.

The Syrian vice president is currently in Europe. He visits Paris from time to time.

Japanese Paper Interviews Information Minister Rajjuh

JN090705 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Damascus — Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh has said that our people, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, are capable of confronting pressures and surmounting all difficulties, particularly the economic difficulties resulting from the continued implementation of large-scale development plans in all fields and from military expenditure to build the power needed to counter the Zionist danger.

Interviewed by Japanese journalist Kikoro Nakaji, head of the Middle East section at the Japanese newspaper *YOMIURI SHIMBUN*, the minister called for a new world economic order and said the United Nations should search for the best ways to accomplish this order for the sake of realizing justice and equality among peoples.

Regarding Syria's unwavering stand toward the Palestine question, the minister said: The Palestine question is the central issue in the Arab homeland. We will continue to support the national Palestinian struggle until the land is liberated and the legitimate Palestinian rights, headed by the right to establish an independent Palestinian state, are regained. The information minister emphasized our strong stand against the deviationist right wing that is led by 'Arafat who is seeking direct negotiations with the enemy along the path of capitulation to the will of the enemy and U.S. imperialism. He indicated that Syria is working along the side of all national Palestinian factions which fight against the trend of deviation and capitulation and that Syria stands with these factions in one trench for the sake of regaining the legitimate rights.

Regarding Syria's relations with the Soviet Union and the United States, the minister reaffirmed that our relations with the Soviet Union are historical, strong, and based on mutual friendship and respect because the Soviet Union supports our Arab nation's just causes. Our stand toward the United States is governed by the U.S. policy toward our issues — a policy represented by U.S. support for the Zionist colonialist invasion of occupied Palestine.

Referring to Syria's attitude toward terrorism, the minister affirmed that Syria rejects and condemns terrorism out of humanitarian considerations. However, he added, there is a difference between what the United States and Israel claim about terrorism and the legitimate national resistance which has been the sound path throughout history for any people in confronting an enemy occupying its territory and in dealing it blows in all fields and with all means.

U.S. Statements 'No Longer Significant'

JN091417 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] At a news conference he held in Bahrain, U.S. Vice President George Bush said that the United States is preparing a new Middle East peace initiative. A few hours after this announcement by the second most important U.S. official, the U.S. State Department spokesman rushed to amend, or rather cancel, this statement. Denying that there is a U.S. initiative, the spokesman interpreted Bush's remarks as a mere indication that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will explore the situation and stands in the region.

This kind of rash behavior is not a new development in the U.S. officials' attitude toward the Middle East. This contradiction in statements and stands is not confined to a certain U.S. Administration. During Jimmy Carter's administration, there were many flagrant examples of rash, contradictory behavior. On many occasions, Carter made statements that contained points making a partial change in the U.S. position on Middle East issues. But all these statements were always followed by statements that cancelled the previous ones and reiterated the original U.S. stands that are completely influenced by Israeli policy in the region. Even the U.S.-Soviet statement on the Middle East was canceled by the U.S. Administration under Israeli and U.S. Zionist pressure before the ink had dried.

Based on our knowledge of U.S. policy in the region, of the aims and methods of this policy, and of its inability even to preserve U.S. interests in the region, we say that U.S. statements are no longer significant, whether they deal with new or old initiatives, proposals, and trends. U.S. Middle East policy has certain frameworks, limits, and restrictions that cannot be violated. These frameworks, limits, and restrictions are hostile to pan-Arab interests, are against the Arabs' right to their land and to their self-determination, and are opposed to the UN Charter and resolutions on Palestinian national rights and the Middle East problem. The region is familiar with many U.S. initiatives, all of which were hostile to the interests of the region's peoples, starting with the Middle East Command [qiyadat al-sharq al-awsat] and the Baghdad Pact; continuing with the Central Treaty Organization, the Eisenhower Doctrine, and the Camp David accords; and ending with President Reagan's 1 September 1982 initiative.

All of these initiatives had two primary aims with several ramifications. These two primary aims were: first, imposing U.S. hegemony over the region and its wealth and recruiting it as well as Israel to serve U.S. imperialism and support its battle against the Soviet Union, the socialist bloc countries, and the world's liberation movements; and second, giving a free hand to Israel, which is U.S. imperialism's strategic ally in the region, by imposing capitulation on the Arabs and forcing them to accept

the Israeli expansionist ambitions with the wide framework of a comprehensive U.S. policy.

The previous U.S. initiatives failed to realize the U.S. and Israeli aims, thanks to Arab steadfastness, supported by the forces of freedom, progress, and peace in the world. Any initiative of this inferior type will be met with effective and appropriate Arab confrontation regardless of the fleets which the United States deploys in the Mediterranean, no matter how the United States instigates the Israeli rulers to direct threats of war at Syria, and no matter how adept the United States becomes at breaking Arab ranks, inventing inter-Arab disputes, and instigating certain Arab sides to enter into direct negotiations of capitulation with Israel.

Had the United States wanted peace in the Middle East, it would not have needed initiatives of the Camp David type, which led to more bloodshed and increased tension and the threat of war in the region, but would have announced only one initiative: a declaration of respect for the UN Charter, international law, and the UN resolutions. In other words, it would have declared its rejection of the principle of annexing the territory of others by force, its respect for peoples' rights, including those of the Palestinian people, to self-determination and to establishing their national states on their national soil. Had the United States wanted to achieve peace in the Middle East, it would have announced its agreement to hold the international peace conference under UN auspices. It would not have sent emissaries to states in the region to call for direct negotiations between separate, weak Arab states on the one hand and a strong Israel on the other apart from the United Nations, its resolutions, and the principles of its charter. It would not have been compelled to dispatch its fleets, mount acts of aggression and terror, and instigate Israel to prepare for new wars through empty statements such as those of Shim'on Peres at the Labor Party convention on recognizing the Palestinians as a people and calling for direct negotiations with them. And it would not have been compelled to hide its failure and inability behind lies and deceptions on combating terrorism.

Papers on U.S. Threats Against Syria, Libya
JN090847 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0440 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Washington and Israel are Preparing for a Military Adventure," *AL-BA'TH* writes: No sooner had the secret meetings between U.S. and Zionist officials in the occupied territory been disclosed than Central Intelligence Agency Director William Casey announced the existence of close cooperation between his organs and the Zionist Mosad. In his announcement, Casey did not miss the opportunity to renew his threats against Syria. It is quite obvious that the U.S. threats are not the first of their kind. They come first as a continuation of the escalating Israeli threats against Syria. They come second amid Washington's preparations to send its fleets and warships to the waters of the fraternal Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. They come third amid the current feverish contacts among the Camp David partners under the old pretext of pushing ahead the peace process as it was called whenever Murphy or other U.S. envoys toured the region.

Those following up the U.S. activity in the wake of military retreat from Libyan waters easily detect the escalation in the Washington-led political and military campaign against the Arab nation — a campaign which is oddly hysterical. The White House administration attempted and is still attempting to instigate its European allies against Libya. It dispatched some of its envoys to the Middle East to hold both overt and covert contacts for the sake of paving the way for its forthcoming plan. Yesterday, U.S. Vice President Bush said: It is premature to talk about our new initiative. What is this initiative? Certainly any talk about peace by the U.S. Administration leaders is nonsense, especially since the recent moves only imply preparations for a military adventure that has clear objectives. This is because the successive failure of the U.S. policy not only in the Middle East but also in the entire world may prompt the U.S. President to think seriously of exploding the situation in the region militarily by committing aggression against Libya or Syria. If this action takes place, it will be doomed to failure and its results will be reflected very negatively on the White Hosue administration, its allies, and its agents everywhere.

Under the headline "The U.S. Move," *TISHRIN* says: Not much effort is needed to realize the dangers of the dual U.S. political and military move and realize the importance of this strategic part of the world and the importance of keeping it away from the circle of U.S. polarization.

Two senior U.S. officials continued their tour of the Arab region while Reagan's administration increased its striking naval force in the eastern Mediterranean following a series of maneuvers crowned by a flagrant aggression agaisnt Libya. U.S. Vice President George Bush is currently on a Gulf tour whereas U.S. presidential envoy Richard Murphy arrived in the occupied territory via Cairo and then returned to Cairo at night. Although Murphy did not make any statement on the nature of his mission, Bush volunteered to talk about it and disclose the secret of the intensive U.S. political and military move. Bush said Murphy began a mission related to a new U.S. initiative aimed at reaching a settlemant of the Palestinian issue, but added that it is still premature to disclose the contents of this initiative. Does this mean that the U.S. Administration has changed its stand toward the Palestine question and that it is searching for a just solution to it? If so, why this U.S. military buildup in the Mediterranean and why the Israeli buildup opposite the Syrian forces? Why are the senior U.S. officials talking about Syria's so-called involvement in terrorism at a time when they are threatening to undertake a direct military action against any state to which Reagan's finger is pointed as being connected with terrorism? What settlement is the U.S. Administration seeking while it is levelling threats against the region's peoples, thus posing the gravest of dangers to world peace and security on the pretext of combating international terrorism?

Peres Calls For 'Unconditional Talks' With Syria

TA090632 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Apr 86 p 1, 7

[Report by political correspondent Roy Isacowitz]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Peres extended an unmistakably dovish hand of peace to Israel's Arab neighbours last night, affirming that Israel recognizes the Palestinians "as a nation," and offering to hold dialogue with Jordan at any level, "openly or quietly."

Delivering the keynote address at the opening of the Labour Party's national convention at Binyeney Ha'ooma in Jerusalem, Peres said that Israel was attempting to "gather together several parallel efforts" as a means of developing a "peace strategy."

Israel, he said, was ready for both interim arrangements and a permanent settlement on the West Bank. He alluded to Israel's readiness to "discuss a common roof and to discuss a permanent floor" — a reference, possibly, to an international umbrella for peace talks.

He also alluded to ongoing negotiating efforts, saying that "according to what is known to me, (King Husayn of Jordan) has not despaired of the prospects of peace."

Addressing the Palestinians, he said: "We do not intend to handle the dispute between us by means of brute force or by intimidation. You won't persuade us with terror, and we have no intention of persuading you with war." The only possible path was dialogue, he said.

Peres called for the "speedy conclusion of the discussions over Tabah arbitration in order to remove that obstacle and release the necessary energies for peace."

He informed the residents of the administered territories that Israel would be prepared to grant additional self-rule to the residents of the territories, and suggested that a start could be made in Gaza.

Peres even offered the hand of peace to Syria, saying that Israel would be prepared to discuss additional arrangements "to prevent unwanted flare-ups," and would be a willing partner to unconditional peace talks "if and when Syria is prepared to deal with us."

Recognizes Palestinians 'As Nation'

TA081920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister has called on the Palestinians to open a dialogue with Israel in the framework of a joint delegation with Jordan. In his speech at the opening session of the Labor Party Convention, Mr Peres stated: We are telling the Palestinians: We recognize you as a nation.

The prime minister also said that Israel is prepared to resume the negotiations with Jordan through either overt or covert diplomacy.

Shamir: Remark 'Deviation From Policy'

TA091023 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0914 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] National Religious Party [NRP] Knesset Members [MK's] Zuvulun Hammer and Avner Sciaki met Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir a short time ago and told him that if the government is disbanded they will prefer elections to a narrow government. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that Shamir reiterated his position that if Peres indeed announces his intention to replace Moda'i, the Likud will announce the disbandment of the government. Shamir said Peres knows he cannot dictate to us who we will appoint to the post of finance minister.

The vice prime minister attacked Shim'on Peres' statement that Israel recognizes the Palestinians as a nation, saying that this is a serious deviation from the government's policy.

The NRP MK's told our political correspondent that they propose that Moda'i apologize to the prime minister and not be replaced, and that clear-cut regulations be issued forbidding ministers to attack the prime minister.

W. Bank Notables Satisfied

TA090641 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] We have the first reactions from the territories to the statement made by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in the Labor Party convention last night regarding recognition of the Palestinians as a nation. Hanna Sanyurah, the editor of *AL-FAJR*, says that this is not the first time Prime Minister Peres has made this kind of a statement. This is a positive step, but it is also necessary to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinians as a nation.

Sa'id Kan'an, one of the leaders of Nabulus, told our Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck that he is extremely satisfied with the prime minster's remarks. Israel, however, must negotiate with the official representatives of the Palestinians. Kan'an called on the PLO and Jordan to lend a hand to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' correct approach.

Tehiya Submits No-Confidence Motion

TA090612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The Tehiya Knesset faction is submitting a no-confidence motion in the government following the prime minister's statement last night at the Labor Party Convention regarding recognition of the Palestinian people. Our Knesset correspondent notes that it is still unclear when the no-confidence motion will be debated, because the Knesset is ending its winter session today and is recessing. Our correspondent has learned that the Likud will hold consultations today to decide whether to join the no-confidence motion.

Coverage on Possible Moda'i Dismissal/Resignation

Peres: Moda'i 'Must Be Removed'

TA081805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1720 GMT 8 Apr 86

["Excerpt" of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' address to Labor Party convention at Binyeney Ha'ooma Auditorium in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] [Broadcast opens with Peres in progress] ...will be implemented in full. [applause] The coalition agreement stipulates that although the prime minister is entitled to dismiss a minister, he would not use this authority on a minister from another party without the approval of the vice prime minister. However, upon the establishment of the government it turned out that there were ministers who through far-reaching statements were endangering the government's ability to perform. They eroded the minimal degree of trust needed for an orderly administration.

After one such bitter experience, I wrote a letter to all the Cabinet members on 13 November 1985, after I had informed the vice prime minister, which stated among other things: A minister who conducts himself in a manner that does not enable cooperation, a minister who lashes out against Cabinet resolutions and actions, against a fellow minister or against the prime minister, is taking responsibility for the very existence of the government. No member of the Cabinet questioned this announcement and, consequently, it turned into both a governmental and coalition agreement. [applause]

The finance minister has broken all these rules: He has lashed out against Cabinet resolutions; he has made very serious remarks against a main partner in it; he has undermined its ability to cooperate; he has made himself the finance minister on one side versus the other side; he has conducted himself in an unforgivable manner which has not dealt truthfully with the prime minister. [applause]

He did that not as a mere slip of the tongue, but through calculated interviews in several newspapers. He did that after he had been warned earlier about unfounded remarks he made against the prime minister in the political field. Despite the fact that every minister is the representative of a party in the government, the moment a person becomes a minister he must be a minister of the entire government, of all its components.

Comrades, the economic achievements belong to the entire government. They are not only the achievements of the government, but first and foremost of the entire nation, of the Histadrut, and of the employers. [applause]

Yitzhaq Moda'i played an important role in these achievements. However, a finance minister must also realize that economic recovery can be carried out only when there is genuine cooperation. He must realize that the economy is based on people who do not want to be unemployed, and not just on figures that arouse gloom. He must realize that an economic analysis cannot be imposed, but must be carried out through continuous dialogue. He must realize that the economy is based on trust among partners, rather than on the arrogance of individuals.

Out of a wish to preserve the national unity government, and in accordance with the precedent which has become part of the agreement, I have reached the conclusion in my capacity, responsibility, and authority that the finance minister must be removed from his present post. [applause]

Shamir: Remarks 'Very Serious'

TA081910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has described Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' remarks about Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i as very serious. In an interview with our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, the vice prime minister said he fears that the prime minister's remarks might spell the end of the national unity government. Mr Shamir was interviewed at the opening session of the Labor Party convention at the Binyeney Ha'ooma Auditorium in Jerusalem.

Hopes for Resolution

TA081216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1152 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Shalom Oren; time and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Oren] Mr Shamir, we are in the midst of a serious government crisis. How do things stand now?

[Shamir] The crisis is not over, but certain efforts are being made, steps are being taken in order to overcome the crisis and allow for the continued existence and normal functioning of the national unity government. I hope that over the next few days the way to overcome the crisis will be found.

[Oren] The prime minister has said that the ball is now in the Likud's court. Is this true?

[Shamir] Look, I am not a football player. However, there is no doubt that the crisis is harming the functioning of the government and we must overcome it. This is the responsibility of all the parties which make up the national unity government.

[Oren] The prime minister said he is determined to dismiss Mr Moda'i.

[Shamir] We are all determined and we are all stubborn people, but despite this all the crises are somehow resolved. We are against the dismissal of the finance minister from his post; we believe he is filling this post successfully and efficiently. At the same time, however, we believe the crisis must be resolved.

[Oren] How do you think this crisis will end?

[Shamir] I will only be able to tell you this once I can use the past tense in reference to this crisis.

[Oren] Will Moda'i remain in his post?

[Shamir] I think so.

[Oren] Perhaps one outcome of this crisis will be bringing unity to Herut. The crisis within Herut seems to have passed; has the present crisis helped in calming down the situation in Herut?

[Shamir] There is no connection between these things. It is possible, however, that this development has convinced all the elements in Herut that we must quickly unite our forces and facilitate the complete merger with Liberal Party.

[Oren] Is the Moda'i crisis the most serious one faced by the unity government so far?

[Shamir] The history of this government has not yet ended, so it is impossible to say whether this is the most serious or not. We will find out next week.

Alignment, Likud State Positions

TA090549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Likud ministers are to meet later today to discuss the statement made by Prime Minister Peres yesterday that he is determined to transfer Yitzhaq Moda'i from his position as finance minister. The mediation efforts continue but in the last 12 hours the crisis has deepened. Tzvi Pantanowitz reports:

[Begin recording] When Vice Premier Yitzhaq Shamir walked out of the Labor Party convention hall soon after Peres had tossed his bombshell before more than 3,000 cheering supporters, things didn't look very good for the future of the national unity government. Shamir termed the Peres remarks a most serious statement which hasten the death knell for the grand coalition, adding: I fear for its fate. Sources close to Shamir said that the Likud would stand firmly behind Moda'i and would not allow the rotation of positions Peres is demanding.

The Likud ministers will be meeting later today to discuss the situation. Deputy Premier David Levi, a key figure, is cutting short a visit to Canada to return to deal with the crisis. His voice is yet to be heard, but his colleagues, Moshe Arens and Ari'el Sharon, have already spoken. Arens has warned that any government other than one of national unity will shake the economy, bringing back inflation of hundreds of percent. Ari'el Sharon also backed the continuation of a national unity government last night, in view of what he called the dangers and problems facing the nation. Privately, some Likud supporters are hoping that Moda'i will bow out at his own initiative, thus saving the coalition.

Observers in the Labor Party Convention hall last night noted that the delegates could not hide their glee at the thought that they had a real fight on their hands and that in their view, the Likud was on the ropes. But publicly for the microphone, Cabinet ministers like Mordekhay Gur and Yitzhaq Rabin hoped that Moda'i would go and that the national coalition government would prevail.

If the Likud rallies behind Moda'i and Labor presses, only two options remain: a narrow coalition or elections. Few feel a narrow-based government is in the cards at present — that leaves elections. On this Likud ministers are still reticent; not so other Knesset members of the group. Pinhas Goldstein said that with Moda'i's dismissal, Peres is sealing his fate in opposition in the 12th Knesset, meaning the parliament to come. That, of course, is an open question.

In the meantime, Rabbi Avraham Shapira of Agudat Yisra'el continues his mediation efforts to find a compromise, a compromise that looks less likely than ever following Peres' public statement on Moda'i last night. [end recording]

Moda'i Offers To Resign

TA090958 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0916 GMT 9 Apr 86

[News conference by Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i; at his Jerusalem office — live]

[Text] [Moda'i] Good morning to all of you. I saw the prime minister's appearance yesterday at his party's convention, and I reviewed the situation very seriously. The country is in a difficult state, and this is the moment of truth. The true interest of the country lies in the balance, and has to be weighed against any other kind of interest. The unity of the country, the continuation of the national unity government, and the continued efforts to rehabilitate the economy are above anything else. I will not be the obstacle and will not, God forbid, harm these supreme effots. I am convinced that the nation does not want this, but this is what it needs at this time. If Prime Minister Peres so desires, I will return the finance portfolio to him and this will be my contribution to the people and the nation. I will continue to serve and, if possible, I will continue to contribute to the rehabilitation process toward achieving economic independence in Israel.

[Correspondent] Do you intend to send the prime minister a letter of resignation, or will you wait to receive a letter of dismissal from the prime minister?

[Moda'i] I will operate in accordance with the government regulations code.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] The issue goes way beyond the economic plan. A national unity government and the unity of the people are of primary importance. The economic plan, which got off to a successful start, is also important, and I cannot take upon myself the responsibility, certainly not personal responsibility, for any mishaps which may take place in this vital national area.

[Correspondent] Mr finance minister, are you taking this step under pressure from your Likud colleagues?

[Moda'i] On the contrary, all my Likud colleagues stand behind me.

[Correspondent] Can you assess what will happen to the economic plan if you resign from the Finance Ministry?

[Moda'i] I hope that there will not be a negative affect, that the policy and the implementation of the policy will continue. We have good chances to extricate ourselves from our economic hardship.

[Correspondent] Will you recommend to the vice prime minister who should replace you in the Treasury, and is your resignation only until the rotation or after it as well?

[Moda'i] The vice prime minister did not ask my advice on this issue, and even if he will ask I am very doubtful whether I will recommend anybody.

[Correspondent] And regarding the other question: Do you intend to remain outside the Finance Ministry even after the rotation (words indistinct] Mr Peres, who will not be prime minister at that time?

[Moda'i] This is still far in the future and I do not think it is relevant at present.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] I am not dealing with these issues today. I already said there are national interests which are above all partisan political considerations. I hope that whatever happens in the political sphere will not harm the nation of Israel; this is what is important to me.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] I will not answer hypothetical questions. I will be very happy if they appeal to me, because this will be a sign of true friendship, but I cannot guarantee to go back on my decision.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] No, I have not talked with them about my intention to resign.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] No. I suggest you ask the government secretary this.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] I am not the man who assigns portfolios. This is the job of the prime minister and the vice prime minister, and I assume that the Likud will decide who will be the next finance minister.

[Correspondent] As the leader of the Liberal Party, will you not demand the portfolio for your party?

[Moda'i] This issue will have to be decided taking into account the circumstances as they develop.

[Correspondent] Can you say exactly what you will do now [words indistinct] Will you submit a letter of resignation or not?

[Moda'i] I did not say I will submit a letter of resignation. If you want to know exactly what I said it was: If Prime Minister Shim'on Peres so desires, I will return the finance portfolio to him, and this will be my contribution to the people and the nation.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] I have answered your question.

[Correspondent] Sir, how do you see the economic plan and its implementation following this step?

[Moda'i] I can only hope that it is continued with energy and perseverence.

[Station correspondent — interrupting] Moda'i does not unequivocally say whether he intends to submit a letter of resignation, and creates the impression that this depends on the will of the prime minister.

[Moda'i — continues] ...I believe that we owe it to the people to continue with the economic plan and to succeed with it.

[Correspondent] Sir, if you give up the finance portfolio what portfolio do you want?

[Moda'i] I will not remain in the government.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] I answered already: I will not be a member of the government.

[Unmonitorable question by correspondent]

[Moda'i] I heard what the prime minister said yesterday, and my present step is in accordance with what the prime minister said.

Shamir Against Resignation

TA091016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1007 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is against the resignation of Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i even following Moda'i's statement that he is willing to resign. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez was told by Shamir's office that Shamir will convene the Likud ministers to discuss the issue in about 2 hours.

Likud Expected To Reject Offer

TA091013 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who is participating in the Labor Party convention, refused to react to the finance minister's statement. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer informed the prime minister of Moda'i's statement: Shim'on Peres thanked him for the information, but refused to react.

Our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav notes that Moda'i's statement was received with great excitement in the convention hall, and many people are talking about it.

Minister Moshe Shahal said in reaction that the finance minister's action is nothing new, and that it came too late. Minister Shahal said there is no certainty that the crisis is over.

Sources in Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office said that he is presently holding consultations. Our political correspondent reports that this morning Minister Moda'i informed Yitzhaq Shamir about his intention to resign. High-level Likud sources assess that the Likud leaders will reject Moda'i's offer.

Minister Ari'el Sharon said that the Likud must not accept the proposal and accused the Alignment of attempting to disband the national unity government.

Further Likud Reaction

TA081945 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] At the end of the opening ceremony of the Labor Party convention the chance that the national unity government will remain intact seems very small to most of the participants in this convention, including some of the guests [who included Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Minister Ari'el Sharon]. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen sums up the situation from the studio:

It is being repeated in the Likud this evening that the prime minister's remarks at the convention in fact put an end to the national unity government. Those in the Labor Party who are opposed to the rotation are joyous, saying: This is the end. They hope that the party convention will be the occasion which will break the national unity government which, in their opinion, cannot continue to function.

The prime minister's confidants are more cautious. His close friends are still raising the possibility that Minister Moda'i will agree to quit his position and thus guarantee the rotation for the Likud, perhaps in return for a promise that he will return to the Finance Ministry in 6 months' time. However, in the meantime this possibility seems unrealistic. The Liberal Party [headed by Moda'i] will not agree to such a far-reaching concession and the Herut leaders also, especially David Levi and Ari'el Sharon, will strongly try to prevent a deal in return for giving up the finance minister's portfolio.

The Labor Party leaders assess that the Moda'i crisis will end with the Labor Party and the prime minister emerging stronger from it. It is believed in the Alignment that the religious parties are not interested in new elections now, and that after they despair of their mediation efforts they will agree to join a Labor Party-led narrow government.

The short-term goal of the Labor Party is then to cast the responsibility for dissolving the national unity government on the Likud and the Likud only, and, in addition, to prepare for the establishment of a narrow government with the participation of the Alignment, MAPAM, Shinuy, The Citizens Rights Movement, and at least some of the religious parties.

Moda'i Backs Sharon as Replacement

TA091205 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1151 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said a short time ago that Ari'el Sharon's appointment to the post of finance minister would be a very good appointment. Moda'i made these remarks in an appearance before students in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Ilan Ben-Dor reports that Moda'i refused to clarify his position regarding the continued existence of the unity government. Regarding the appointment of a new finance minister, Minister Moda'i said the consultations will take place in the open rather than behind the scenes.

Beilin: Resignation Not Yet Final

TA091145 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Interview with Cabinet Secretary Dr Yosi Beilin by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- live from Labor Party Convention Hall in Tel Aviv]

[Text] [Schiffer] Dr Beilin, has Minister Moda'i really taken the step which will remove him from the Cabinet?

[Beilin] No. It is clear that formally he has not resigned. The process of resignation and of dismissing a minister must begin in a Cabinet session. This is where a minister announces his intention to resign or, alternatively, where the prime minister announces his intention to dismiss a minister. After this is done the resigning minister must submit a letter to the prime minister, and only then has he formally resigned. The resigning minister can take back his resignation 48 hours after submitting the letter. If it is the prime minister who submits the letter, it is he who has 48 hours within which he can take back the letter.

[Schiffer] So far Minister Moda'i has taken none of these steps. Have you received any message that he is about to get in touch with you?

[Beilin] This is a different question which should not be addressed to the Cabinet secretary. All I can say is that he cannot write a letter of resignation today, because before a Cabinet session such a letter is meaningless.

[Schiffer] You were one of the few people who spoke with the prime minister within the last hour. How did he react to Moda'i's announcement?

[Beilin] I prefer that he answer this himself.

[Schiffer] The prime minister refuses to react for the time being. He thanked us for the information. Now everybody here is looking for more information, but it is the Likud which holds this information. However, since we have Dr Beilin here, let us ask him another question: Yesterday the prime minister announced

that he recognizes the Palestinians as a nation, and political circles view this statement as a major change.

[Beilin] I think it is somewhat strange to view this as a change, because in September 1978 Israel accepted this in the Camp David agreements, which were approved by an overwhelming majority in the Knesset, a majority that cut across all party lines. The agreements state that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people will be part of the permanent solution for the Middle East.

Labor Leaders Comment on Events

TA091245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1228 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] In behind the scenes consultations at the Labor Party convention, the Labor leaders decided that even after today's events, the finance minister and the Likud still have to respond to the prime minister's demand that Yitzhaq Moda'i resign. This is reported by our correspondent Amnon Nadav, who is in the convention hall. If Yitzhaq Moda'i does not submit his letter of resignation before the Cabinet session Shim'on Peres will present him with a letter of dismissal.

In consultations between the prime minister and the Labor Party leaders in the midst of the Labor Party convention session, it was concluded that there is no need to panic over the Likud's threats regarding the disbandment of the national unity government. The Alignment is ready both for early elections and for a narrow government under its leadership.

However, the National Religious Party [NRP] and Morasha will not join a narrow government. The NRP secretary general said he has already made this clear to the prime minister and the vice prime minister. Morasha Minister Yosef Shapira told our correspondent Arye Salman that if the Alignment brings about early elections, the nationalist camp must unite behind the slogan of Greater Eretz Yisra'el. Minister Shapira expressed concern about the prime minister's remarks regarding Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, and said that the attitude of the prime minister and his colleagues toward the territories is one of incitement.

Likud Ministers Threaten To Resign

TA091330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1322 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The Likud ministers have decided that they will all resign from the Cabinet in its upcoming session next Sunday if the prime minister dismisses Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i. This decision was made at a meeting held by the Likud ministers at Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office, a meeting which is now coming to its end. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Salman, who is on the scene. The Likud ministers also said that they will not agree to Yitzhaq Moda'i's resignation, and that if Mr Peres insists on dismissing him, this will be the end of the unity government.

Knesset Faction Supports Decision

TA091529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] All the Likud ministers will quit the Cabinet on Sunday if Mr Peres insists on his decision to fire Minister Moda'i. The Likud ministers will also not accept the finance minister's resignation. At a meeting with the Knesset Likud faction, Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir asked the faction to approve the decision of the ministers. In a forceful speech, Minister Shamir said that if the prime minister decides to violate the coalition agreement, he should do so in the open and present his own resignation to the president. He disclosed that he had informed Mr Peres that the Likud would quit the government if he demands the finance minister's resignation, and consequently it is clear that the demand is meant to disband the unity government.

Minister Shamir called on Mr Peres to go back on his decision. He accused him of proceeding with utmost irresponsibility because he is throwing the people and the country into a state of chaos. The Likud, Shamir emphasized, is prepared to go to elections. Our correspondent in the Knesset Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that all the speakers at the meeting expressed support for the finance minister and the decision of the Likud ministers. Earlier, Minister Moda'i stated that he had not yet made up his mind and that he would make a decision by the Cabinet session on Sunday.

No Resignation Before 13 Apr

TA091402 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1358 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i will under no circumstances resign before the Cabinet meeting this coming Sunday. Moda'i said this upon leaving a meeting with his colleague Minister Ari'el Sharon.

Reportage on Egypt's Ghali Visit, Meeting With Peres

Ghali: Meeting 'Very Constructive'

TA081830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Egyptian Minister Butrus Ghali conferred with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this afternoon. At the end of the meeting, Ghali stated: The talk was constructive. The visitor relayed a verbal message from President Mubarak to the prime minister. He noted that he intends to confer with the prime minister once again before he returns to Cairo. As recalled, Ghali is here as the guest of the Labor Party convention.

[Begin Ghali recording — in English] I had a very constructive and positive talk with the prime minister. I transmitted to him an oral message of President Mubarak and I hope to see him again before I leave for Cairo. The purpose of my mission is to participate as a member of our National Democratic Party in the conference of the Israeli Labor Party. [end recording]

The Egyptian minister added he was optimistic about a solution of the Tabah dispute.

Calls for Improvements in Territories

TA090527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Visiting Egyptian Minister of State Butrus Ghali has called on the Labor Party Convention to press for drastic improvements in the quality of life for Palestinians in the territories. Ghali, speaking at a dinner for foreign guests of the convention, said there can be no peace until the Palestinian problem is solved. He said the Palestinians must have the right to determine their own future.

Praises Remark on Palestinian Nation

TA091210 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1144 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Egyptian Minnster of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali told our Arab affairs correspondent 'Eldad Beck that the prime minister's statement that the Palestinian people are a nation is an extremely important statement. Ghali met Prime Minister Peres for the second time this noon for approximately 3/4 of an hour. Following the meeting Ghali described it as being constructive.

Peres Briefs Knesset Committe on Regional Issues

TA081044 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Apr 86 p 3

[Report by Dan Margalit]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that ideas for negotiations with Jordan exist, but he did not go into detail. Israel, he said, cannot accept Egypt's position on the Tabah issue, but progress is being made in peace efforts with both Egypt and Jordan.

Peres noted that on Sunday night he met with U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering who told him that his ideas about a Marshall plan for the Middle East had been adopted as an American plan. Peres said that "it was better this way. It is not in Israel's interest for the stability of the Arab countries to be upset. Syria's foreign currency reserves have dropped to only $50 million, and this could cause a radical change — either toward war or toward peace," said the prime minister.

Peres also said that the accusations against Kurt Waldheim are serious, and that Israel has asked to clarify them with the help of documents held by the United Nations. However, he said, no stand should be taken before Waldheim has a chance to reply to the allegations.

Rabin To Allow Political Rallies in Territories

TA082025 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The defense minister will allow political rallies in the territories. This has been learned by our correspondent Gil Sadan. To date political rallies, both by Arabs and Jews, had been banned in the territories. From now on, the nature of each rally will be considered individually. Our correspondent says the decision was made against the background of the Tehiya Movement's convention which will be held in Qiryat Arba' next week. The Peace Now Movement has been authorized to hold a counter demonstration at the time of the Tehiya convention. Palestinian figures will participate in the Peace Now rally which will be held at the Hebron Park Hotel.

Our correspondent notes that although the defense minister's decision enables Arabs in the territories to hold political rallies, the defense establishment intends to meticulously examine whether approval should be given to such rallies in the future.

Favors Territorial Compromise

TA080943 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 9 Apr 86 p 11

[Report by Nadav Ha'etzni and Yisra'el Peretz]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin met with 12th graders in Ramla yesterday. "I do not want to live in a country in which 30 percent of the Knesset members are Arabs who would tip the scales of anti-Zionism in the country. I am opposed to extending Israeli sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria, but I would unhappily and painfully accept a territorial compromise," said Rabin.

Rabin explained that a territorial compromise — with the Jordan River as a security border and the Arabs of Judaea and Samaria under the Jordanian flag — is the solution to the Palestinian problem. "Were another 4 million Jews to come to Israel I would be in favor of an integral Eretz Yisra'el," stressed the minister.

Warns Syria, Iraq on Using Missiles

TA071615 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1540 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said today that Syria and Iraq possess surface-to-surface missiles that can strike targets in the center of Israel. If the Syrians really try to attack our cities, Rabin warned, we will strike their cities with a force a hundredfold fiercer. The defense minister spoke to 12th graders in Ramala, and here is an excerpt of his remarks:

[Begin recording] At present, a number of Arab countries, Syria and Iraq, possess three types of surface-to-surface missiles: The Scud missiles, which are mounted with a 1-ton bomb and can be fired from north of Damascus and hit Tel Aviv, and also Ramala; they have the SS-21 missiles, which can be fired from a range of 120 km, but which cannot hit Israel from Syrian territory; and there are also the Frog missiles.

The answer to surface-to-surface missiles attacks is our ability to tell the Syrians, and, even more than simply tell them: If you should strike our cities, your cities will be hit by a force a hundred times stronger, whether this attack comes from the air or through other means. [applause] [end recording]

Terrorists Consolidating Naval Activity

TA081156 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Apr 86 p 4

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] Since September 1984 the Israeli Navy has foiled 10 terrorist attacks via the sea. Seven of these attempts were conducted with the use of mother ships: Smaller boats are lowered from the mother ship with the aim of reaching the coast.

Lately the Palestinian organizations' naval activity has been consolidated. Palestinian terrorists regularly send commercial naval vessels out into the Mediterranean Sea. Their aim is twofold: to gain experience in operating naval vessels and to use civilian vessels to carry out attacks.

The Palestinian terrorists receive naval assistance in the form of training and weapons from several Arab countries, including Libya.

According to a senior Navy source, the Palestinian terrorists are investing a great deal of effort in the matter of naval attacks. They are improving and perfecting their methods of operation and are purchasing new weapons. These developments are making it necessary for the Navy to invest large resources beyond those needed to foil attacks via the sea.

IDF Recruiting Muslim, Christian Galilee Arabs

TA081039 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Apr 86 pp 1, 9

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] For the first time since the establishment of the state, the IDF has started intensively recruiting Muslim Arabs who are not Bedouins and Christian Arabs — all from the Galilee villages. Most of the new recruits serve in combat units.

A top military source told *MA'ARIV* yesterday that from May 1984 to November 1985 40 Muslim Arabs and 21 Christian Arabs have been recruited to the IDF, and they constitute 50 percent of all the minorities (excluding Druze and Circassians) recruited to the IDF.

In the last 2 years there has been a growing trend among many of the Muslim and Christian sects to do compulsory military service in the IDF. The IDF has accepted the appeal by dozens of youths, both Muslim and Christian, from the villages of Rama, (Bayt Zarzir), Jish, Sakhnin, Deir Hanna, Nazareth, Kafr Yasif, etcetera, and has recruited them to the IDF.

Many of the Arab recruits serve in the paratroopers, armored corps, and other units.

The military source emphasized that the IDF accepts only those possesssing good qualifiactions — that is, those who are fluent in the Hebrew language, have a minimum of 10 years education, and are in good health.

Incidents Involving Molotov Cocktails, Bombs

Bus Hit Near Jerusalem; 10 Hurt

TA081922 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Ten passengers of a bus running the No 25 route from Jerusalem to Neve Ya'aqov were wounded this evening by a Molotov cocktail thrown at the bus while it was driving through 'Anatot. One of the passengers sustained serious wounds and suffered severe burns.

Our correspondent Moshe Nusbaum reports that the Molotov cocktail was thrown at the bus when it pulled at a stop in 'Anatot. The wounded passengers were transferred to the Hadassah Mount Scopus Hospital. The police have detained 17 people in connection with the terrorist attack.

Car Explodes in Zone; 6 Wounded

TA081355 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1348 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Six Lebanese, three of them army of southern Lebanon soldiers [ASL], were wounded in the explosion of a booby-trapped car in the security zone in Lebanon this afternoon. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the car, a Mercedes, exploded near the village of Hasbayya while it was market day there. The terrorist who was sitting in the car panicked due to the presence of an ASL soldier at the site and blew himself up with the car.

Bomb Explodes in 'Afula; 1 Hurt

TA081029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1023 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] A passing soldier was slightly wounded when a small bomb exploded in the center of 'Afula a short time ago. He received treatment at the hospital and was sent home. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that this is the ninth bomb which has exploded in 'Afula in recent months. Police sources said the bomb was undoubtedly planted by terrorists.

Charge Goes Off in Haifa; No Damage

TA081208 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Over an hour ago a small explosive charge went off at Palyam Boulevard in downtown Haifa. There were no casualties and no damage was caused. The police have detained several dozen suspects for interrogation.

Our correspondent Gabi Zohar points out that some 10 explosive charges have gone off in Haifa in the last 6 months, mostly in the vicinity of Paris Square.

AL-QUDS Urges Renewal of Jordan-PLO Dialogue

TA071059 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 4 Apr 86 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Before It Is Too Late"]

[Text] While answering a reporter's question on the possibility of a dialogue between Israel and the PLO, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said: "The dialogue between Jordan and the PLO has failed; do you expect a dialogue between Israel and the PLO to succeed?"

Apparently Shim'on Peres is striving with all his might to exploit the suspension of the dialogue between Jordan and the PLO to Israel's benefit, endeavoring to portray the PLO as a party with which one cannot engage in a dialogue or reach any results. Shim'on Peres is fully aware that Israel and the United States were behind the suspension of the dialogue and coordination between Jordan and the PLO, because from the very outset they rejected the principle of the PLO's participation in any proposed talks. Together, they tried to distort and damage the PLO's prestige by all available ways and means, and ultimately strived to ensure the failure of the dialogue between Jordan and the PLO.

If Peres' remarks prove anything it is that the dialogue between Jordan and the PLO must be renewed because the continuation of the rift and the escalation and expansion of the differences are liable to directly contribute to the success of Israeli-U.S. plans aimed at reinforcing the fait accompli and imposing unilateral solutions.

The uncertainty and ambiguity prevailing throughout the Middle East basically stem from the lack of a just, durable, and comprehensive solution to the region's problem — a solution which cannot be reached without the participation of all parties to the conflict, icluding the PLO, by means of an international peace conference as proposed by the United Nations.

We believe that prolonging the suspension of the dialogue between Jordan and the PLO and the continuation of the state of discord and disunity that the Arab nation is experiencing at present serve the aims of those parties that are trying to impose solutions and settlements based on disregarding the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. With the beginning of the beating of war drums over the heights along the Syrian-Israeli borders, Jordan, Syria, and all the Arabs are called upon today, more than any time in the past, to reassess their positions, study the developments, and learn the lessons before it is too late.

Briefs

March Soviet Immigration — Last month only 53 Jews left the Soviet Union. This is the lowest number of emigrants in 8 months. Eight of them emigrated to Israel, while the rest went to various other countries. *[Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Apr 86 TA]*

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Addresses FLN Conference

LD081412 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Unidentified correspondent dispatch on opening of 7th Conference of the National Organization of FLN Veterans, place and date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] The president of the Republic has delivered a speech at the opening of the conference. He analyzed the conditions on the national arena and the Greater Arab Maghreb, the Saharan, Palestinian, and Gulf war issues, and other matters.

He spoke of the repercussions of the world economic crisis on the Algerian economy saying that self-reliance, national production, and the ending of negative aspects such as waste were essential for overcoming the difficulties. He affirmed that the state will guarantee the availability of essential commodities in the markets whatever the conditions.

The president then spoke of the need to enhance Algerian thinking so that it may keep pace with the quick economic development which resulted in backward mentalities unable to grasp the true character of this development. He pointed out that the speedy development has led to the emergence of some social ailments such as wine-drinking and smoking and the like, maladies which have harmful effects on the society. In this regard, he affirmed the need for the party and state machinery to combat these maladies.

With regard to citizens' rights, he affirmed that the right of expression is guaranteed for all citizens and we have been working to consolidate it within the framework of the national charter, which is the basic source.

Referring to the question of the Arab Maghreb, he affirmed that the building of the Greater Arab Maghreb can be carried out on a clear and firm basis free from pressures, taking into consideration the realities and regime of every people of the region. He pointed out that experience has shown that the building of unity on the basis of political considerations only can never materialize. Political and economic aspects should complement each other, he said, and a material content should be provided in the first place in the field of cooperation.

The brother president spoke in this context to the meetings which took place between the Algerian, Tunisian, Libyan, and Mauritanian officials for the exchange and the holding of consultations over the unity of the Maghreb.

After affirming that Algeria believes in dialogue, he pointed out that the building of the Greater Arab Maghreb cannot be achieved while the Saharan problem continues. He affirmed Algeria's firm stance in this regard, supporting the liquidation of colonialism and the right of self-determination for the peoples.

With regard to the Palestine question, Bendjedid affirmed that Algeria will spare no effort in the rallying of the Palestinians. This is because the Palestine question is the basic cause of all Arabs. He regretted the resort to methods of violence, referring in this regard to the fighting around the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. He said there were other ways of solving problems and avoiding wars and conflicts among brothers.

Referring to the Gulf war, he affirmed Algeria's firm position toward the conflict between two Muslim countries whose conflict serves none other than the enemies of the Islamic nation. He affirmed that Algeria was against aggression and the occupation of plan by whatever country.

Energy Talks End With More Gas Supplies for SFRY

LD090358 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid received Pavlovic, Yugoslav chairman of the Federal Committee for Energy and Industry.

It is worth noting that Pavlovic's visit to Algeria is also marked by talks with Nabi, minister of energy and chemical and petrochemical industry; and the signing of a series of agreements, notably an agreement associating SONATRACH and Naftagas, prospecting for hydrocarbons in Algeria which widens cooperation between both companies; and an agreement to supply Algerian gas to Yugoslavia which adds to the previous one concluded July 1985.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Military Commanders

LD091511 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Apr (JANA) — This afternoon, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, met with the commanders of the land, naval, air defense, and air forces. The meeting was aimed at preparing military plans to confront recent threats from the United States.

The meeting was attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud; Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces; Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, inspector general of the Libyan Arab Forces; and Major al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi.

U.S. Official Affirms Attack Plan

LD091531 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] In Washington, a U.S. official, who asked to remain anonymous, affirmed that President Reagan and his advisers have agreed on the need to launch a military attack and to take retaliatory measures against Libya. The U.S. official pointed out that Reagan and his advisers have not yet fixed the time for this blow. Yesterday, the U.S. television network CBS had disclosed a plot that is being hatched by the U.S. Administration to launch a new attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The CBS television network stated that following the painful blows that were directed against the United States throughout the world, and because of the spreading violence, the U.S. Administration chose five targets for attack in Libya when it decided to implement the multifaceted U.S. emergency plan.

UAE Paper: Libya, Sudan To Establish Union

GF090752 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0735 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Apr (WAM) — The newspaper *AL ITTIHAD* today states that Libya and Sudan have agreed to establish an immediate union between them.

The paper quotes a senior source in Tripoli as saying that a high-level delegation, which includes 20 officials, among whom are some military officials, is currently in Khartoum to put finishing touches to the union plan and to make the necessary arrangements ot proclaim it.

The paper adds that the union plan between Libya and Sudan is expected to be announced following the conclusion of the legislative elections now going on in Sudan.

U.S. Urges West Europeans To Expel Libyan Diplomats

LD081441 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The Voice of America today said that State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb has appealed to U.S. allies in Europe to expel members of the Libyan People's Bureaus in their countries. The U.S. spokesman Bernard Kalb said that the United States is urging its allies in Europe to consider the expulsion of members of the Libyan diploamtic bureaus.

REUTER, citing government sources in Bonn, reported that the Reagan administration has officially asked West Germany to take political and economic measures against the Jamahiriyah including closing down the Libyan mission and expelling Libyan diplomats. The agency added that Washington has handed the Bonn government a document issued by the CIA in which it is alleged that Libyans were behind the explosion that shook Berlin last Saturday. UP reported that the U.S. Administration has asked West European governments to expel Libyan diplomats. The agency pointed out that the Reagan administration wanted to force the governments of France, Italy, and Germany to expel diplomats working in people's bureaus.

U.S. Citizens, Interests Attacked Worldwide

LD081503 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] In dramatic events that have ignited the imagination of the very complex U.S. intelligence and spy systems and overloaded cable lines and press photographer's lenses, an epidemic of violent action has spread in a big way against Americans and their interests over a broad geographical area and from all four corners of the world. The bodies of U.S. soldiers were scattered in pools of blood and flames of fire, and smoke rose from U.S. buildings in many countries of the world; fire, engines and ambulances worked with a capacity that surpassed any reasonable extent.

A violent explosion last night [as heard] shook the town of Chiclayo northern Peru, and the U.S. cultural center in the town was destroyed. On the same night a strong explosion destroyed a U.S. airlines building in the Swedish capital, Stockholm. A big explosion occured in the U.S. cultural center in the town of Chiclayo, northern Peru, last night and caused devastating damage to the building and led to a number of deaths and injuries. The West German news agency reported that this explosion comes a few days after a number of explosions in the capital Lima which were aimed at the U.S. cultural center and other U.S. trade centers in the capital. The agency pointed out that the police in Lima have announced that two officers died on the day before yesterday, but it did not disclose the identity of these two officers.

FRG Investigator Says Libya Not Involved in Bombing

LD082003 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin, 8 Apr (JANA) — Piete, deputy head of the commission in charge of the investigation of the explosion at a West Berlin night club, emphasized that allegations by the U.S. media, according to which Libya is behind the incident, are groundless.

Piete also said that there is no tangible proof for what is claimed by the U.S. media, especially U.S. television allegations.

Katushev Gives Al-Qadhdhafi Gorbachev Message

LD090810 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The brother leader of the great al-Fatih revolution yesterday evening received Konstantin Katushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who conveyed to him a letter from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU.

Economic Cooperation Discussed

LD081525 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The secretary of the General People's Committee of Planning today in Tripoli had a meeting with Konstantin Katushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The meeting was attended by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry, the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Moscow, and a number of experts and technicians in various secretariats and public corporations. On the Soviet side, it was attended by the delegation accompanying the chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and the Soviet ambassador to the socialist peoples Libyan Jamahiriyah.

A review and discussion of friendly bilateral relations and the means of developing and strengthening them in the mutual interest of the two friendly peoples in various economic, trade, and technical areas were held. Many committees were created by this joint meeting. They were tasked with studying all areas of cooperation, especially the economic, scientific, technical, and trade areas. The Soviet delegation arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening.

Katushev Lays Wreath

LD081944 Tripoli JANA in English 1809 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 28, Apr. 8, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr. Konstantin Katushev, the member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Communications and his accompanying delegation placed this evening a wreath of flowers on the memorial of the Al-Hani battle's martyrs in Tripoli.

He also visited the grave of Mujahid Muhammad Abu Menyar al-Qadhdhafi the father of the leader of the revolution.

Egyptian Assembly Member Cited on Visit Criticism

LD081317 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Voice of the revolutionary committees]

[Text] The leader of the opposition Egyptian Socialist Labor Party and member of the People's Assembly, Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, strongly attacked the tendentious campaign launched by pillars of the Egyptian regime in the People's Assembly which was raised after the visit he paid to the Jamahiriyah as a representative of the Egyptian people. During his reply to this cheap campaign, he said that his party represented the will of the great Egyptian people. He added that this visit exemplified a principal objective of the party's leadership and the party as a whole to represent the Egyptian people in the street, and to serve Egypt and its Arab people. He stressed that what was said by some members of the People's Assembly, pillars of the Egyptian regime, was devoid of objectivity and lacked patriotism.

JANA Scores Egyptian Stance

LD080913 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0715 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The JANA Arab affairs editor has commented on the tendentious campaigns launched by members of the Egyptian regime inside the so-called Egyptian People's Assembly following the visit of engineer Ibrahim Shukri, chairman of the opposition Labor Party in Egypt, to the Jamahiriyah recently — the party which represents the Egyptian will and the Egyptian people. The editor pointed out in particular that the Egyptian popular delegation led by Ibrahim Shukri carried with it demands concerning the halting of the media campaigns against the head of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak, and requests relating to the facilitation of movements of Egyptian citizens to and from Libya so that they can avoid having to travel via European countries — that is to say, to guarantee their direct travel from and to Libya.

JANA Arab affairs editor reaffirmed that the efforts made by engineer Ibrahim Shukri and the popular delegation that accompanied him received a response from the competent authorities as the specialized people's committees were instructed to look into the realization of these demands. The editor expressed regret over the negative reactions by members of the Egyptian regime to the demands of the Egyptian popular delegation just because the delegation had visited an Arab country and an Arab people, as if visiting this country were illegal and deserved condemnation, at a time when visits by the Zionist enemy to Egypt are permitted and the movements of the delegation of the Egyptian authorities to the Zionist entity and the welcome they receive there are permitted, and while a visit to Arab Libya has been branded as "illegal" and deserving of censure. The JANA Arab affairs editor said that if these campaigns were launched by the so-called Egyptian People's Assembly and members of the Egyptian regime, then one can say that this assembly does not represent the Egyptian people and is not worthy of the confidence of the Egyptian people, and only engineer Ibrahim Shukri, and those following his policy, truly represent the Egyptian people.

JANA Arab affairs editor concluded his comment by calling on the Arab people in Egypt to withdraw their confidence from the so-called Egyptian People's Assembly and depend on the efforts of engineer Ibrahim Shukri which aim at the liberation of the will of the Arab people in Egypt from the accords of humiliation and shame and at the total disengagement of the Egyptian people from the wheel of imperialism, and ultimately at the regaining of the pan-Arab struggle role of Arab Egypt anew.

MOROCCO

King Briefs Party Leaders on Talks With De Cuellar

LD081927 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpts] King Hassan II presided over a meeting in Erfoud of the leaders and representatives of Moroccan political parties. His majesty was accompanied by his royal highness the crown prince, Prince Sidi Mohamed, and His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid.

His Majesty King Hassan II informed the leaders of the political parties about the consultations directed by Morocco with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar on the situation in Northwest Africa.

Information Ministry Statement

LD082045 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The Ministry of Information has issued the following statement:

The UN secretary general decided to offer his good offices toward finding a solution to the Sahara conflict. This would be

within his general responsibilities and within the framework of the mission delegated to him by the UN General Assembly during its latest session.

Regarding this matter, messages have been exchanged between his majesty and the UN secretary general. His majesty summoned the representatives of the national political parties and informed them about all the developments in this matter. He also presented to them the various elements of the coming stages, which were explained in detail in the royal message addressed to Mr Perez de Cuellar.

We have to emphasize particularly and clearly that Mr Perez de Cuellar will carry out his good offices, whether regarding the cease-fire or the procedures which will follow the referendum, by holding one-to-one talks with each of the concerned or interested parties.

Mr Abbes Kaisi, the secretary general of the government, has been appointed as his majesty's plenipotentiary to Perez de Cuellar.

King Hassan Grants Interview to French Magazine
LD082201 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The French magazine (?*THE TWO WORLDS*) has published an interview with His Majesty King Hassan II by Mr (?Terry Mountreal), director of the French Institute for International Relations.

In this interview, his majesty talked about a number of international issues and problems, especially East-West relations, the proposed Moroccan membership of the EEC, and the issues of the Arab Maghreb, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Afghanistan.

At the beginning of the interview, his majesty analyzed the situation in Europe in the light of the political, economic, social, military and strategic events witnessed during the past decade.

In his talk about the proposed Moroccan membership of the EEC, his majesty said that Europe will find itself in need of a region of support, and it will have to look for it in the south, in other words, in the Mediterranean, North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa.

Regarding the construction of the Great Arab Maghreb, His Majesty expressed his belief that many steps could be taken during the coming 3 years. His majesty warned that if the leaders of Africa do not pay serious attention to their countries, then within 30 years Africa would not be able to rise up to the level of its continental and human responsibilities.

His majesty talked about the crisis of Afghanistan. He pointed out that it has become similar to the Vietnam war, and that it is dangerous to the Soviet Union.

He condemned international terrorism, describing it as (?base) and [word indistinct] because it leads to the loss of innocent lives. His majesty pointed out that statements accusing Libya of terrorism are without basis or proof.

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Libyan Delegation
JN090939 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Khartoum, April 9 (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab has received an invitation from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to visit Libya, said TMC press advisor Bashir Muhammad Sa'id following a meeting between Siwar al-Dhahab and the Libyan delegation.

During the meeting Secretary-General of the Libyan Armed Forces Staff, Colonel 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Ubayd reaffirmed Libya's support for the Sudanese people and expressed keenness over the Arab unity. He said, in this context, Libya belives that she could provide solutions to the Arab differences indicating that Libya while proposing the Arab unity does not desire to change the existing Arab entities. He hoped that the Arab unity plan sent earlier by Al-Qadhdhafi to Sudan would find response and support.

Sa'id noted that Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab had thanked the delegation and extolled the Libyan aid to Sudan in all domains. He remarked that Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said Sudan supports the Libyan plan for Arab unity and hoped that the elected government would consider this plan seriously.

Sa'id added that Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab had reiterated Sudan's denunciation to the U.S. aggression against Libya.

Discuss Unity, Relations
LD090843 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Yesterday afternoon the Libyan Arab popular delegation, currently visiting Sudan met with General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council. Siwar al-Dhahab praised the proposal regarding unity which the brother leader of the revolution presented to the Arab kings and presidents. In a statement to a JANA correspondent yesterday, he said that the Transitional Military Council has discussed the formula of the Arab union presented by the brother leader of the revolution. He added: if this formula were to be applied, it would save the Arabs from the loss they live in. General Siwar al-Dhahab reaffirmed the excellent relations between the Jamahiriyah and Sudan, pointing out that the Arab people in Sudan cannot forget the great assistance which the people of the Jamahiriyah gave them.

The Libyan Arab delegation currently visiting Sudan to participate in the celebrations of the Sudanese Arab masses of the first anniversary of the victory of the popular revolution in Sudan met with members of the trade unionist groupings within the framework of presenting the proposal for the establishment of unity between Sudan and Libya and regarding a formula for implementing this unionist plan. Members of the trade unionist grouping at this meeting expressed their profound welcome for the proposal put forward by the Libyan Arab delegation. The Libyan Arab delegation gave a detailed account of the significance of the declaration of unity between Sudan and Libya as soon as the elections ended on 6 April.

Military Source on Situation in Bahr al-Ghazal
JN091021 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Khartoum, April 9 (SUNA) — A high-level military source described the security situation in Bahr al Ghazal area — southern Sudan — as stable.

The Sudanese People's Armed Forces is in full control to the situation there, the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* published here today quoted the military source as saying.

The military source said the Armed Forces had for the second time attacked the rebels troops in Bahr al Ghazal area, adding that the second attack March, 13 had crushed the rebel troops.

The daily quoting the military source said military enforcement had reached the area beside supplies and fuel. This [word indistinct], the source told the daily, in the context of combing the area of rebel elements.

Military Helicopter Catches Fire in East
JN081014 Khartoum SUNA in English 1000 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Khartoum, April 8 SUNA — Ten military men narrowly escaped death when they jumped from helicopter after it caught fire immediately while taking off at Kashala Airport in eastern Sudan. The ten military who had been on board the helicopter plummeted immediately it caught fire and were not hurt as the plane was about thousand metre altitude. An Army statement said the helicopter which had been taking off from Kassala to Khartoum when it caught fire was completely damaged by the fire, whose reason was not yet disclosed.

SPLA Puts 2 April Plane Death Toll at 28
EA081523 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Details from Bor on the government Army transport plane that was shot down on 2 April 1986 reveal that the plane was carrying food items to the besieged government soldiers in Bor Garrison. According to our correspondent who accompanied the SPLA forces to inspect the remains of the plane, 28 passengers, including the crew of the plane, were all killed. After the plane was hit by the SAM, it went ablaze and fell 1 km east of Malwalchat. However, the Khartoum government denied that the plane was shot by SPLA. In an article published in *AL SAHAFAH* on 3 April 1986, 1 day after the incident, the defence minister, Major General 'Uthman Abdallah, alleged that the plane crashed due to a technical fault and he put the number of the dead as two army officers and five soldiers only.

In another development, SPLA officers who went to visit the scene clashed with Siwar al-Dhahab's soldiers, who had also been to the scene. In this development, two government soldiers were killed and the rest were dispersed.

ETHIOPIA

Draft Constitution To Undergo Public Discussion

EA082150 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1600 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The second session of the Constitution Drafting Commission [CDC] today unanimously resolved to present to the WPE Central Committee the improved draft constitution compiled by the commission's Executive Committee and a report of the commission's work.

The second session of the CDC, under way for the past 5 days with active and democratic participation, ended its deliberations today in the belief that the draft constitution is now sufficiently enriched in form and content for submission for public discussion. The members of the commission were drawn from various bodies of our party, public, and government organizations, and religious institutions, and professional associations and individuals known for their distinguished services have greatly participated in and contributed toward the improvement and enrichment of this great document which will make it possible to establish the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

The resolution stresses that the commission, chaired by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, command in chief of the revolutionary armed forces, and chairman of the commission, unanimously approved the report presented by the chairman of the Executive Committee and notes that the report deeply reflects the activities carried out and results achieved by the various committees. The resolution says the commission members jointly discussed and expressed their views in a democratic manner. It notes that the commission members not only discussed the preparation of the draft constitution but stressed their conviction that the realization of the direct control of power by the working class is inevitable.

In a speech concluding the meeting, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam listed the work remaining for the commission and noted that in accordance with the resolution adopted by the WPE the draft constitution is to be submitted for public discussions, the draft constitution will be further improved and enriched by the views to be gained from the public.

UGANDA

Museveni Assures West Nile of Equal Treatment

EA081428 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has reiterated that his government represents a new movement, new politics, and a new army since the country became independent in 1962.

Addressing a rally in Arua town [West Nile region of northwest Uganda] during his 3-day visit to the district, President Museveni emphasized that the NRM treats everybody on individual merit, regardless of tribe or religion.

He said his government will always try to defend and promote what is good in society but will not hesitate to deal with bad elements appropriately. Amid cheers from the crowd, President Museveni said the people of West Nile cannot be blamed for the misdeeds of Idi Amin, since no tribe has a monopoly of good or bad people. He said this divisive approach used by politicians in the past was a clear sign of their bankrupt policies which led to bloodshed and damage to property in many parts of the country. He praised the people of Arua District who have started returning to their homes in large numbers and are showing readiness to resume their normal activities following the liberation of the area.

Earlier, the president met elders in Arua and assured them that the NRM government is doing its best to plan the reconstruction of the country and the establishment of the rule of law. He disclosed to the elders that the new Ministry of Constitutional Affairs is working out a framework from which a special committee will make a draft constitution open to the public before adoption by a constituent assembly. He also assured them that the National Resistance Council will be expanded to include representatives from every district in the country. The elders expressed their happiness with the behavior of soldiers and urged the president to stamp out corruption and smuggling which is a major hazard in border districts. They pledged to assist through local committees to defend freedom and justice. [sentence as heard].

During his tour, the president met a contingent of Ugandan refugees at Oraba on the Uganda-Sudan border who expressed their anxiety to come back. The president told them that every Ugandan citizen is free to come home and settle. He explained to them the government's rehabilitation program in war-ravaged areas. He said it provides, among other things, for the provision of food and agricultural implements, and free education, and tax exemptions for 1 year.

President Museveni also met representatives of FUNA [Former Ugandan National Army], and UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] who are currently cooperating with the NRA units in the area. The president told them that it was necessary to recover all the guns and keep them under one command to insure security and stability. He said the process of incorporating group elements into the national Army is already underway. He disclosed that the 25th and the 27th Battalions are being formed from elements of Fedemu and UNLA.

The UNRF acting chief commander reported that they are still waiting for instructions before handing over their guns to the NRA brigade commander. President Museveni emphasized to them that the question of security is supreme but other issues may be discussed bilaterally when convenient.

Before returning to Kampala, the chairman of the NRA High Command addressed officers and soldiers of the battalion in Koboko and the 13th Battalion in Arua. He commended them for their high sense of discipline and good relations with civilians and urged them to maintain vigilance and isolate any bad elements that might ruin them.

CAR

Trial of Bangui Student Activists Continues

AB081450 Paris AFP in French 0903 GMT 8 Apr 86

[By AFP special correspondent Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Bangui, 8 Apr (AFP) — The trial of the 10 CAR students arrested last 14 March at Bangui University and accused of "threatening the security of the state", resumed on Tuesday morning before the special tribunal of the Central African capital.

The trial opened on Monday and the first day was devoted (?to) the questioning of the accused. The students were arrested when police invaded the university campus which had been in a state of unrest for many months. Since then, the students have been on strike and the resumption of classes upon completion of the Easter holidays still has not proceeded normally..

The accused are being tried for "threatening the security of the state through acts and maneuvers aimed at jeopardizing public security, disturbing the peace, inciting hatred against the government, and breaking the country's laws."

The students stress that their claims are material and not political. They want to challenge a decision by the authorities to abolish scholarships for students who repeat their classes. They also contest the intention of the Ministry of Education to link the granting of scholarships to the choice of "useful fields" such as the sciences for instance.

On their part, various CAR officials indicate that the unrest is "political" and that they are led by "agitators manipulated from abroad" whose aim is to "destabilize and topple" General Kolingba's regime.

According to these officials, some of whom do not hesitate to accuse Libya, pamphlets have been found "which demonstrate their authors' desire of destabilization." However, the very existence of these pamphlets is disputed by many students who believe that "they have only existed in the mind of the police."

The verdict of the trial, which might be handed down this Tuesday, will determine the development of the students' strike movement. As a matter of fact, the students have recentlyadded the liberation of their imprisoned school mates as one of the conditions for the normal resumption of classes.

The public trial is being conducted before the Bangui special tribunal which is presided over by a civil magistrate assisted by two military assessors and a civilian one. It is being held in the overexcited hall of the Justice Palace of the CAR capital. Hundreds of students, ready to decry the police, are packed into the hall.

Security forces are, for their part, present both inside and outside the Justice Palace. Some of them carry tear gas grenade launchers.

This trial, observers note, occurs just before the legal date of the resumption of classes for secondary schools following the Easter holidays. Secondary schools and colleges had been closed in March by the authorities following the unrest which spread to primary schools.

The minister of national education, Mr Jean-Paul Ngoupande, announced at the time of the closure of the schools that they would reopen only when the pupils themselves request it.

CHAD

Reportage on Visit of French Defense Minister

Arrives 7 April

AB080650 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The French minister of defense began his first trip to Africa this afternoon with a visit to Chad, our country. Andre Giraud, who is accompanied by General Saulnier, chief of defense staff, was received late this afternoon by President El-Hadj Hissein Habre. Without prejudicing the substance of their talks, it is justifiable to think that they centered on the situation in our country — a situation characterized by Libya's continuous aggression against Chad. In fact, this is the first time that the French minister has visited Chad since Jacques Chirac became head of government following the recent legislative elections in France. The French defense minister, who is accompanied by a large team of French newsmen, will visit French troops stationed in Chad — in Ndjamena and at Moussoro — before returning to France.

Meanwhile, (Madirangar), you were at the presidency and you followed the arrival of the French envoy. Would you please tell us something about his arrival?

[(Madirangar)] Yes, in the first place, the president and minister of defense, His Excellency El-Hadj Hissein Habre, met for more than 1 hour — 1 and 1/2 hours I can say — with French Defense Minister Andre Giraud. Even though you have already mentioned it, I would like to recall that this is the first time that Andre Giraud has paid a visit to Chad, because as you know, the minister is part of the new team formed by Jacques Chirac. After the audience at the presidential palace, the French defense minister did not make any statement.

Grants Interview

AB082222 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Interview granted to correspondents of the domestic and international press in Chad by French Defense Minister Andre Giraud on 8 April in Ndjamena following his visit to Chad — recorded]

[Text][Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, the first question that we would like to put to you concerns your impressions after the visit which you have paid to our country.

[Giraud] In all, I examined in detail with the responsible officers the structure and functioning of Operation Epervier and I feel its is completely and perfectly appropriate to the situation.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, how does it feel for a French defense minister to be equally welcomed by the war veterans of Chad?

[Giraud] It is a great feeling. In fact, I had the opportunity at Moussoro to shake hands with these men, many of who have military medals, and I had a deep sense of an indestructible friendship between France and Chad.

[Reporter] The periods are different, but the contexts may be similar. To this effect, how can France help Chad to recover its entire national territory?

[Giraud] Well, the problem of the recuperation of the entire Chadian territory can only be achieved through a cohesion between domestic policy,foreign policy, the operations of the Chadian Army, and the support of the French Army. One can see that much progress has been made both in the internal and external political situations, because President Hissein Habre scored a great success during the Brazzaville meeting where he was all alone before the African heads of state who supported him. Similarly, much success was scored on the military level by the Chadian Army and we think that it is necessary to move ahead in the same direction with the maximum patience and prudence possible.

[Reporter] And in the field of domestic policies, France has a commitment concerning the agreements which it has signed with other countries. And within the Chadian context, France signed a disengagement agreement with Libya — an agreement which was broken by Al-Qadhdhafi because not only did Libya fail to withdraw its troops from Chad, but also reinforced its troops and, worse still, with the recent attacks, one can say that Libya has actually violated the Tripoli agreement. In this case, what action can France take against Libya?

[Giraud] I think you have the answer right here. You only have to look around you. The answer is right here. The French Army is supporting its Chadian friends.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, Al-Qadhdhafi still believes that France cannot really intervene in the Chad-Libyan confict. Are you prepared to intervene on the side of the Chadians if the 1983 operation should be repeated?

[Giraud] Why do you ask me this question when you can see for yourself the support actions of Operation Epervier which took place during the past few weeks. Our position has remained constant. We have a cooperation agreement with Chad and we give the appropriate support at the request of the Chadian Government and within the requested time limit.

[Reporter] It is a matter of record. We had Operation Manta.It served as a deterrent. Is Epervier a bit more efficient than Manta?

[Giraud] I think it is up to you to judge. It seems to me that the dissuasive nature of Operation Epervier is no longer in doubt.

Habre Holds Press Conference on Talks With Giraud

AB082051 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Press conference given by Chadian President Hissein Habre to journalists of the national and international press in Ndjamena following French Defense Minister Andre Giraud's visit to Chad on 8 April — recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] ... Operation Epervier can help in ensuring the social security of our capital, Ndjamena?

[Habre] Following the latest developments in the Libyan aggression, we called on France to help us stop this cycle of aggression. To this end, Operation Epervier was set up. Operation Epervier is a light one but qualitatively it is very strong, coherent, and therefore effective and functional, and we are very satisfied with it.

[Reporter] You met the new French defense minister. Could you tell us the subject of your meeting?

[Habre] First of all, we are happy that the French defense minister, Andre Giraud, devoted his first official visit abroad to Chad. This shows two things: First, the excellent relations between Chad and France; and second, the importance of the issues of common interest. His visit afforded us the opportunity to discuss the various aspects of cooperation between France and Chad, and I must add that we made a complete survey, I would even say an in-depth survey, of issues concerning military defense as well as cooperation in general.

[Reporter] Did you ask the new French defense minister for a deeper French military involvement to help you reconquer (?the occupied territory)?

[Habre] Well, I want an all-round cooperation which has military as well as political and diplomatic aspects. Both sides are holding regular consultations and you should be assured that we understand each other and therefore the way things are currently going is quite satisfactory.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] for the reconquest, notably of Faya Largeau, and in this case, would you ask France [words indistinct]?

[Habre] For us, our objective — and you will easily understand this — is to be able to preserve and ensure the territorial integrity of Chad as a whole and therefore, recover in one way or another, the occupied zone of our territory. This is our ultimate objective. As to how to achieve this, we do not have a ready-made solution in our pocket. We hope to explore all avenues — diplomatic, or military. What is important is the final result, our objective. And the objective, that is, the recovering of the occupied zone of our territory, is the most essential thing for us. Naturally, we do not, at any moment, want to stop pursuing this objective. When we are going to attain this objective is a matter of circumstance, time, and means.

[Reporter] Mr President, after the (?abortive) Brazzaville conference which made the OAU and the whole of Africa aware of the

problem between Chad and Libya, and since you have just stressed that the solution to the Chadian problems lies in the recovery of Chad's territorial integrity, how do you view the current development in the military situation in Chad?

[Habre] After the recent fighting, there has been somewhat of a lull. But this is a precarious situation. We know that our enemies are very active: recruitment of mercenaries continues with more and more intensity; materiel continues to arrive in the north, and therefore we expect other developments in the situation. We are thuspreparing ourselves accordingly.

[Reporter] The new team in Paris includes men who are on good terms with your country. Now that the (?election fever in France is over) [words indistinct]?

[Habre] I will say one thing. It is true that human relations are very important but, first, relations between France and Africa in general are old relations of an economic, cultural, and sentimental nature which make these relations durable. These are not cyclical relations subject to the vagaries of the climate. As a result, these relations, in spite of the small problems which may arise here and there, are constant and durable. I do not see any disruption in these relations due to the recent developments in the internal situation in France. After all, President Mitterrand, who is an old friend of Africa, is still president of the French Republic; after all, Jacques Chirac, the current French prime minister, who is a disciple of Gaullism, is a friend of Africa. Therefore, I do not see any change in the relations between Africa and France. Africans are very practical about this issue.

[Reporter] Mr President, you have always said that the problem of the Northern Armed Forces [FANT] is the air coverage of the territory. What value do you attach to French military cooperation in the field of training our pilots or the Chadian Air Force?

[Habre] I must say that in this regard cooperation is excellent. The FANT has received information courses and trainingcourses both at home and in France. You were speaking of air coverage. I perfectly understand the Chadian feelings. You would like France, which has a large fleet, to put all its aircraft at our disposal immediately to enable us to go to the north; that is your wish. But please understand that one does not fight a war in that way. France is a power which has other obligations. There is perfect cooperation and a spirit of understanding in this regard. Besides, if we can recover the occupied parts of our territory by peaceful means, for example, that would constitute a positive achievement for us, for France, and even for Libya. So you see, it is a whole that is certainly military, but also political and diplomatic.

[Reporter] The Brazzaville reconciliation conference was unable to take place due to the absence of one of the parties concerned. What is the diplomatic situation, since Libya and their Chadian allies were nowhere to be found?

[Habre] Yes, this is an important issue. In our opinion, there has never been a shadow of a doubt, and we said it in 1982, that the main protagonist is Libya. Why? It is very simple. We know that Goukouni does not constitute a real force capable of jeopardizing the unity, the territorial integrity, and the stability of Chad. Not at all. There are simply too few Chadians in northern Chad who are under the authority of the Libyans. It is also important to note that most of our people in the North are against Libya, and are fighting against Libya in their own way. Therefore, a few Chadians, Goukouni and others, who are in the North, are under Libyan authority. Moreover, these Chadians represent a small complementary force, a very small force. Among their ranks, there are members of the Islamic Legion from various countries and religions.

Unfortunately, some have often sought to ignore this reality, and by ignoring it, they naturally had to expect to end up with situations like the Brazzaville experience. Looking at the negative aspect of the issue, we have seen what the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] represents. Nothing at all. The Libyans have prevented it [words indistinct] by force. In Bamako, Mali, the same thing happened. As a result, our problem [word indistinct], and we do not know who is occupying our country in the North.

ZAIRE

Mokolo Receives Belgian Cooperation official

AB081115 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Belgium's actions in the field of cooperation in Zaire will be geared toward the agricultural sector. This was stated by Belgian Secretary of State for Cooperation and Development Andre Kempinaire, who is currently on a visit to our country. He was speaking after the discussions he held with Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation. Kempinaire pointed out that his 6-day mission to Zaire will enable him to learn about the various projects in which Belgian technical experts are taking part.

Citizen Mokolo and his guest also discussed the forthcoming meeting of the Grand Belgian-Zairian Joint Commission in Brussels.

BURKINA FASO

President Sankara Interviewed on Sahel Situation

AB061415 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 5-6 Apr 86 pp 28-30

[Interview with Burkinabe President Thomas Sankara by Jean-Pierre Aye — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [*FRATERNITE MATIN*] Mr President, a few days ago, while receiving delegates of the Association of French-speaking Parliamentarians, you said the following: "If our people should continue to be victims of famine for a long time, they would not hesitate to launch an attack on the strongholds of abundance. And this could be the beginning of the third world war." Mr President, do you sincerely believe that?

[Sankara] I believe it, not by choice but rather because it is evident and ineluctable. Wherever men have felt isolated, wherever the people have had to suffer from hunger while others were living in abundance, situations of insecurity and revolt have been created. All the peoples that have experienced years of economic boom have also experienced setbacks as this boom benefited only a minority. You see, currently the development of our African export products is being highly compromised due to the most unjust remunerations paid for them, a situation which clearly resembles extortion, a death trap, or organized international racketeering. And even in the face of this situation, those who exercised restraint and patience are now raising their voices. This holds true for President Houphouet-Boigny in the face of the situation currently confronting cocoa. Recently, he spoke some bitter words and has also rejected the alternative solution suggested to him. This is the beginning of a revolt. All that is needed is for several other countries sharing the same reactions to become organized and then we would find ourselves in a conflict situation. If they do not soon stop trying our patience, if they do not grant us our legitimate rights, then they are giving us an opportunity to use all possible means to defend ourselves, because it is in the interest of the survival of our people, who would not be in a position to bear any longer the injustices which their heads of state can no longer bear.

[*FRATERNITE MATIN*] Mr President, drought and desert encroachment have become daily events in the Sahel region. The battle against these natural phenomena demand huge financial commitments on the part of the Sahel countries, even though there is international aid. Today, do you believe the Sahel states can efficiently fight — with their own means — against these phenomena and at the same time service their debts?

[Sankara] You have used the right word: debt. It is a new scourge which is also disrupting our economies and prevents development projects in the Sahel countries and in Africa in general. It is an open secret that debt weighs heavily on the weak economies of our states. The weight of this debt is quite unbearable. Understand me well. We are not against the principle of incurring debt. Rather, we know and we admit that it is sometimes necessary to be in debt to develop creative activities that can bring about wealth. But if this debt is generating a feeling of revolt and indignation in us today, if we refer to it today as a new injustice, it is because we believe that paying off this debt under the conditions demanded, within the context of crisis being experienced by our states, means paying it double. Sometimes I believe that we have already paid up. By the way, how was this debt entered into by our states? Simply upon the advice of the very people who were interested in investing their capital in our countries. And they did so by mortgaging our future.

When advising us, they highly recommend to us to engage in such or such a venture.

[*FRATERNITE MATIN*] Mr President, I would like you to comment on the weight of debt in the Sahel countries and how they can pay up in the face of the Sahel phenomena?

[Sankara] Let me say that in the case of the Sahel countries, the situation is, quite frankly, dramatic. The situation is even more dramatic since disasters like those currently affecting the Sahel are prevalent in that region. And nobody is coming to our aid in a concrete way. However, during the boom years, they were here to loot us. You know, in the past, Burkina alone sustained the effort of the Second World War in peanuts and cotton production. The same holds true for Mali and Senegal. Efforts to sustain the war were so great that a country like Senegal, for example, has remained a single-crop country. And this situation made the overseas people rich. And today, as our countries are faced with drought and desert encroachment, nobody comes to our rescue in a concrete way.

[*FRATERNITE MATIN*] Mr President, the Sahel countries have never lacked international aid?

[Sankara] Yes, undoubtedly, but when I say "to come to the aid in a concrete way," I want this to be totally different from the food aid they give us and which, in reality constitutes impediments to our agricultural development efforts because this food aid has engendered in our peasants a feeling of being beggars....

And yet, in the past, when there was drought — because it has happened before — when there was famine, our forefathers developed creative initiatives which enabled them to invent cooking recipes adapted to the given environment in which they were living. They "invented" various forms of agriculture also adapted to their environment. Floods enabled them to set up of rice plantations. Drought motivated them to cultivate rice in the mountains. So many discoveries and adaptations were made under the pressure of necessity.

Today, no one feels obliged to look for solutions. Why? Simply because we receive food aid that solves our problems. And our agricultural engineers have become experts in letter-writing. They only have to write letters to the international organizations to ask them for food aid. That is their contribution, at least for a portion of them.

No, we say that food aid must gradually give way to aid toward production, toward the means of production: machines, tools, fertilizers. We are in agreement with this kind of aid.

[*FRATERNITE MATIN*] Mr President, do you believe that the solution to the Sahel problem can be achieved by the Sahel

countries themselves?

[Sankara] Yes, this solution exists because this Sahel, which they describe as a cursed land or as a land of misfortune, is our paradise. It is our home. It is up to us to make it beautiful and create conditions for our happiness.

[*FRATERNITE MATIN*] Mr President, Africa is absent in the fight against drought in the Sahel. In your opinion, what could be our continent's contribution?

[Sankara] You are right. Africa is absent from the fight being waged in the Sahel. This can be observed through the organizations that could have projected our awareness to fight against desertification, against drought. We have been late and it was from outside that the first reactions and incentives came. As if one needed to come from outside one day and tell us: Be careful, it is cold; you will catch a cold if you do not cover yourselves. We set up organizations like the ICDCS [Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel] in West Africa. A similar one exists in the Horn of Africa. But all these have come rather late, in view of the reality of the threat . Within the framework of this solidarity among Africans to fight against drought, we can and we must know how to complement our efforts.

GHANA

Asamoah Leaves for Brazil, ANC Secretary Departs

AB081548 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, left Accra today for Brazil to deliver a special message from the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, to the Brazilian head of state, Mr Jose Sarney. The contents of the message were not disclosed, but they are believed to center on the recent arrest in Brazil of a Panamanian registered vessel loaded with 6 tons of ammunition on its way to Ghana to destabilize the government.

Asked how far the Brazilian Government is cooperating in dealing with the arrested mercenaries, Dr Asamoah said he had met the charge d'affaires of the Brazilian Embassy in Accra on two occasions. During their first discussions, he expressed Ghana's concern about the destabilizing activities of dissidents and asked the Brazilian Government to take appropriate action in dealing with the issue. On the other occasion, he again emphasized the seriousness of the situation as a result of world-wide activities of mercenaries. Dr Asamoah said so far the Brazilian Government has responded favorably to these overtures.

On the same plane was the secretary for culture and tourism, Dr Mohamed Ben Abdallah, who is leading a 2-member delegation to a 3-day conference of African ministers of culture in Mauritius. Speaking to newsmen, Dr Ben Abdallah said the meeting, which is the first of its kind by African ministers of culture, was advocated during the last summit of OAU heads of state. He said the meeting is to foster and boost cultural relations among African states. It is also to establish a cultural agency of the OAU which will deal with different aspects of culture, including language, films, and the creation of educational interaction.

The ANC secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Johnny Makasini, who arrived in Accra yesterday for a short visit, was on the same plane. He said he was highly satisfied about discussions he held with government officials. He said the visit also enabled him to deliberate on bilateral relations between the government and the ANC. Mr Masakini praised Ghana for its political and material support to the ANC.

A communique issued on his talks with Dr Asamoah said the two men noted with satisfaction the increasing number of contacts established recently between the ANC and progressive groups in South Africa, including representatives of the white opposition party, businessmen and white students. They agreed that this development is the direct result of the intensification of the struggle led by the ANC to make apartheid unworkable, and South Africa ungovernable.

The communique said the two sides reviewed the forthcoming international conference on sanctions against South Africa due to be held in Paris in June under the joint auspices of the UN the OAU, and the nonaligned group. They agreed on a strategy for follow-up action after the conference to accelerate the liberation process in South Africa. Ghana reaffirmed her commitment to the liberation struggle in Southern Africa, and her determination to offer all possible material and moral assistance on a continuing basis until victory is won.

Paper Condemns U.S. Policy, Notes Demonstrations

AB081020 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 8 Apr 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The *GHANAIAN TIMES* says last Friday's demonstrations in Accra against the United States policy of destabilizing all progressive Third World governments brought out a question whose importance must not be ignored. That question was in reference to the revelation made by the authoritative Cairo newspaper *AL-AHRAM* in its editorial a few days ago that Egypt has been approached three times in the last 4 months by the United States to agree to facilitate military action against Libya.

The *TIMES* says the question why the U.S. Government wanted Egypt's help to invade Libya is important for its implications. It is of serious interest to Ghana for a number of obvious reasons including the meaning of last Saturday's disclosure that the United States has promised legal aid for the mercenaries caught in Brazilian waters en route to Ghana with a shipload of arms and ammunition for an attack on Ghana. The Cairo connection also affects the provocative American military maneuvers in Libyan territorial waters in the Gulf of Sidra, particularly its effects on exposing the falsehood of the Reagan administration's attempt to justify the U.S. military presence at the Libyan coasts. It is also important to view the U.S. attempt to solicit assistance for invading Libya [words indistinct] on the logic of the basic purpose of the conference of all progressive and anti-imperialist liberation forces from all over the world which was held in Tripoli

2 weeks ago. The purpose of the Tripoli conference was to establish the grounds for the need for the small and weaker nations of the world to coordinate and harmonize their own protection against oppression by the big powers which seek to keep the weaker nations under imperialist dominationn.

The *TIMES* says the world is waiting to hear whatever explanation the U.S. Government will give of its attempt to organize an Egyptian invasion of Libya at a time when there was no reason whatsoever why Egypt should attack Libya. Such an explanation, maintains the *TIMES*, must also answer the worldwide opinion that the U.S. Government has been falsely accusing Libya of invading Chad just to get an excuse to attack Libya as it is noted that the eruption of each Chad military crisis coincided with U.S. military maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra.

Moroccan Envoy Arrives for Cooperation Talks

B070840 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] A 3-man Moroccan delegation headed by a special envoy of the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Mohamed Mahjoubi is in Ghana on a 3-day visit. Speaking to newsmen on arrival at the Kotoka International Airport, Mr Mahjoubi said that while in the country, the delegation will hold discussions with government officials in the fields of agriculture, fishery and industry. He said Morocco is interested in certain areas of Ghana's economic recovery program.

ANC Envoy Briefs Officials on Situation in RSA

AB070906 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs of the African National Congress, Mr Johnny Makatini, has also arrived in Accra from New York for a 3-day visit to Ghana.

Mr Mkatini said he is the country to brief the government on the rapidly unfolding situation in South Africa. According to him, efforts are being made to solidify and broaden the foundation of the liberation struggle by all the democratic forces in South Africa under the leadership of the ANC.

Mr Makatini said the liberation forces comprising the Congress of the South African Trade Unions, the United Democratic Front, the Parent-Teacher Association and student bodies are committed to fight the repressive apartheid system. He pointed out that the recent lifting of the so-called state of emergency by the racist regime is intended to deceive the world. On the recent visit to South Africa by six eminent Commonwealth leaders, Mr Makatini said it remains to be seen whether the racist Botha regime would implement the Commonwealth proposals. The proposals include the dismantling of apartheid, the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of the nationalist leader Mr Nelson Mandela and the lifting of the ban on the ANC. He predicted that South Africa will be in flame by June this year if apartheid is not dismantled by then. June, he explained would be the end of the 6-month ultimatum given by the South African Trade Unions Congress at the last Commonwealth summit in the Bahamas to the racist regime in South Africa to do away with race discrimination.

LIBERIA

President Doe Signs Economic Policies Act

AB080645 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] President Samuel K. Doe has signed into law an act adopting certain economic policies for the recovery of the nation's economy. According to the act, the Government of Liberia shall require the surrender to the National Bank of Liberia 25 percent of the foreign exchange earned from all exports from Liberia, over and above any other arrangements which may already exist between exporters and the government for the (?offshore) payment of some of their obligations to the government.

An Executive Mansion release issued in Monrovia today said the National Bank of Liberia shall make the 25 percent foreign exchange earning so surrendered available to the respective exporters [words indistinct] of Liberia through the Liberian banking system either in Liberian dollars or U.S. dollars at the sole discretion of the National Bank of Liberia, the act said. The act further stated that all exports from Liberia shall require final approval of export permits from the National Bank of Liberia which shall be issued upon the satisfaction of the National Bank of Liberia that all foreign exchange payments and banking transactions with respect to each export consignment are in order and that appropriate provisions have been made for the 25 percent surrendered component to the National Bank of Liberia.

Concluding, the act said the National Bank of Liberia shall engage the advisory services of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and reputable private investment bankers with respect to the management of the 25 percent surrendered component of the exchange earned from Liberian exports.

Government Considering Dialogue With Opposition

AB081135 Paris AFP in French 0907 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Monrovia, 8 Apr (AFP) — Jenkins Scott, the Liberian minister of justice, said in Monrovia on Monday that his government was examining the possibilities of engaging in a "significant dialogue" with the opposition.

Such a policy of dialogue could be initiated within the framework of a round table conference which would enable the various political leaders of the country to study the present political and economic situation in Liberia, Scott added.

Four opposition parties, united recently in a coalition, asked for the holding of such a meeting before the controversial general elections which took place on 15 October last year. These four parties are the Liberian Unification Party (LUP, led by William G. Kpolleh), the Unity Party (UP, led by Edward B. Kessely), the Liberian Action Party (LAP, led by Jackson F. Doe), and the United People's Party (UPP, led by Gabriel Baccus Matthews, a former Liberian foreign minister).

The ruling Liberian Democratic Party had rejected this request by saying that it did not agree with the program of such a conference which was supposed to tackle the issue of the political situation in the country prior to the general elections.

Opposition Leaders Meet With Church Officials

AB081735 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Monrovia, April 8 (AFP) — Leaders of the four-party opposition coalition Tuesday met with members of the Liberian Council of Churches to discuss what party sources described here as "matters of national interest".

According to the secretary-general of the coalition, Peter Jallah, the group, representing the Liberia Action Party, the Unity Party, the Liberian Unification Party and the United People's Party, was not "satisfied with the present national state of affairs and would want to see an immediate normality."

Mr Jallah disclosed that a 26-member coalition delegation met with a team of selected lawyers last Friday and intended to meet the entire Bar Association to discuss "problems affecting the state." He gave no further details. He denied charges by the authorities, however, that the coalition's objective was to create chaos in Liberia.

BBC Interviews Former Information Minister Karpeh

MB071736 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 7 Apr 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" Program]

[Text] The job of information minister in Liberia is a somewhat precarious one. They tend to come and go with amazing frequency, some sacked, some resigned, some even executed. The latest casualty is Carlton Karpeh, who has been dismissed by Samuel Doe in a goverment reshuffle. On the line to Monrovia, even as Carlton Karpeh cleared his desk at the ministry, Robin White asked him why he thought he lost his job.

[Begin recording] [Karpeh] Well, I wouldn't be able to tell, Robin, because I only heard on the radio that I had been replaced, and we serve at the pleasure of the president of Liberia.

[White] But you haven't been given a reason for being sacked?

[Karpeh] Well, I haven't been given a reason when he feels that a reason is necessary. If he doesn't think that a reason is necessary, there is no law that can compel him to.

[White] There is usually a good reason for cabinet ministers being dropped entirely. In fact, have you had a row with President Doe?

[Karpeh] A row with the president of my country? I couldn't have a row with the president of my country. I could state to him my observations on something which I feel perhaps strongly about, which I may have different opinion about, and it will be up to him to accept those observations or to reject them but even that has not occurred.

[White] So, it is all a bit of a mystery to you?

[Karpeh] Well, it is because I was brushing and burning my farm when I heard the news about a hundred and something miles away from here, so it is a little bit of a mystery.

[White] Are you a bitter man today?

[Karpeh] No, I am not a bitter man, because bitterness and violence and this sort of negative traits are not part of my makeup. I find I can spend my energy in more constructive ways than to be bitter.

[White] Information ministers in Liberia seem to have a rather short life?

[Karpeh] Ha, ha, ha, well, I will say that the ministers here have been playing a sort of musical chairs, but you know this a very testing and trying job. (end recording]

MALI

Moussa Traore Receives FRG Defense Delegation

AB082215 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] A high-powered delegation from the FRG, headed by Peter Kurt Wurzbach, parliamentary state secretary at the Federal Ministry of Defense, has been visiting our capital since Sunday [6 April]. This morning the delegation attended a military parade held by the national military band of the Gendarmerie and the paratroopers company at the Ministry of Defense in the presence of the military private secretary, Colonel Abdoulaye (Minigen), who was accompanied by high-ranking officers.

The delegation was received in audience at 1200 by General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the UDPM [Malian People's Democratic Union] and president of the Republic of Mali. The major topic discussed during the audience was the dynamic and efficient cooperation that exists between Mali and the FRG which was the first country to recognize the sovereignty of [words indistinct]. Also discussed was the FRG's active participation in Mali's development efforts and the strong desire of our two countries to strengthen and expand their cooperation. The discussions took place in the presence of the permanent undersecretary, Dr N'golo Traore; the permanent secretary, Mohamed Alhousseny Toure; and of the military private secretary, Col Abdoulaye (Minigen).

France's Guy Penne Stops Over in Bamako

AB081630 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's special adviser on African affairs, this morning made a technical stopover at the Bamako Senou Airport. He was on his way to Lome. He was met on arrival by Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, who will be our

special guest on the Sunday radio program, "Teletribune." We will come back to this later. Guy Penne was also received by His Excellency Francis Plateau, the French ambassador to Mali.

While at the VIP lounge, Guy Penne and Alioune Blondin Beye held discussions on bilateral issues. It was agreed that Guy Penne will later pay an official visit to Mali at a date that is yet to be determined.

Guy Penne came from Dakar where he was received yesterday evening by Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, the current OAU chairman. Prior to this, Guy Penne was received in Abidjan on Saturday by Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

NIGERIA

Chief of Staff on Local Council Regulations

AB031125 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The chief of General Staff Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, has explained that the new local government reforms which came into effect on the 1st of this month, are meant to be executed in stages. Commodore Ukiwe said that the state governments had been given enough free hand in the implementation of the reforms because of certain problems that were peculiar to some states. State House correspondent Clement Akintmide, has more on the explanation.

[Akintmide] Commodore Ukiwe, who was speaking at the quarterly news briefing of media executives in Lagos yesterday, said that there were so many areas where changes were being made and what the government had done was to slow down the states from implementing them at random. He said that the first thing was to launch it formally, and then discuss the modalities of implementation. This, the chief of General Staff said, has now been done.

[Begin Ukiwe recording] Now, of course, you know you cannot wake up overnight and say everything in the white paper be implemented. We are not magicians. They are given room to start implementing them, while we will be monitoring from General Staff Headquarters, and we are giving them a little room because we know that the situation is not the same in all the states and in fact in all the local government areas. And it is in appreciation of this that we have given them a little latitude.

There is no decision that all sole administrators — I am talking of individuals — should be sacked. But there are no more sole administrators. The governors are to appoint administrators. If the ones that are there are doing very well, and the governor wants to reappoint him now as administrator, not as a sole administrator, he is free to do so. He will be the chairman of the council. Councilmen will be five including the administrator himself. And we said with effect from yesterday, they should start implementing. Some will have to consult with people and so on and so forth before they make the appointments. And we have given them a little bit of latitude. It may take some 1 month. They may not even appoint in all the local governments at the same time. We are dealing with human beings, and we do not want to give the idea of military orders. [Words indistinct] in an effort to hurry. This is not so. [end recording]

[Akintmide] Commodore Ukiwe restated the Federal Government's determination to ensure that local governments were revamped so that their vital functions of providing services to the citizens could be carried out. He explained that the Armed Forces Ruling Council took the final decisions on the recommendations of the local government commissioners, and what the National Council of State which met last week did was to deliberate on the modus operandi and the various modalities for the implementation. Commodore Ukiwe pointed out that the major change that came out of the government's review of the former white paper of May 1985 was that the chairmen of the local government councils should be appointed on full-time basis instead of part-time.

Servicemen May Participate in Politics in 1990

AB071640 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] The minister of defense and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Major General Domkat Bali, has said that Army officers wishing to take part in partisan politics in 1990 are free to do so. Maj Gen Bali, who was speaking on a television program in Jos, said that such officers would, however, be required to resign from the Army before going into partisan politics.

On the tenure of office of military governors, he said they had no specific terms to serve as governors and could therefore be redeployed at anytime to formations where their services were needed. The minister also said that any governor who [words indistinct] found undesirable would be removed.

Alien Control To Be Intensified Along Borders

AB081948 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The Federal Government is to open immigration offices in local government areas to monitor the movement of aliens. The minister of internal affairs, Colonel Shagaya, said in Calabar during courtesy call on Governor Dan Archibong, that the move became necessary following the recent reopening of the country's borders.

SENEGAL

President Diouf Receives ECOWAS Delegation

AB061230 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 5 Apr 86

[Text] The head of state received an ECOWAS delegation led by Yusufu, secretary of state for economic affairs at the Nigerian Ministry of Planning, at 2 o'clock [1400 GMT]. Present at the meeting was our minister of commerce, Abdourahmane Toure. After the meeting, Yusufu discussed with Philippe Ndogoye the reasons for his visit.

[Begin recording] [Yusufu in English followed by consecutive French translation] The outcome is very positive. As you know, Nigeria is the current chairman of ECOWAS. And the next summit meeting will be held in May, starting 5 May to 7. In preparation for this important summit, Nigeria is holding consultations with the other member countries. And it is in this respect that I have been mandated by my president, General Ibrahim Babangida, to convey an important message to his colleagues in the subregion.

[Ndogoye] Can we say with certainty that you are satisfied with the discussions which you held with the president of the Republic?

[Yusufu] I am quite satisfied. [End recording]

France's Guy Penne Meets With Diouf, Comments

AB081110 Dakar Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Guy Penne, French President Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs, was received yesterday afternoon, at 1700, by President Abdou Diouf. The meeting took place in the presence of the French ambassador to Senegal.

[Begin recording] [Penne] I handed President Diouf a message from the president of the French Republic. I visit Senegal quite often. In addition to our historic relations, there are also ties of deep friendship between the two heads of state and my visit here falls within that framework.

[Unidentified reporter] Did you examine other issues with the president?

[Penne] Well, we examined all types of questions; first of all, the bilateral relations of cooperation between France and Senegal. President Diouf also gave me a message for President Mitterrand. He spoke in particular of Africa's political situation, and his specific activities as current OAU chairman, and of the abortive Brazzaville conferrence, the international conference on Africa's debts [words indistinct]. Our talks, which lasted 90 minutes, took place in the usual atmosphere with President Abdou Diouf displaying a sound understanding of the problems and [words indistinct]. [End recording]

TOGO

France's Guy Penne Arrives, Meets With Eyadema

AB081250 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The head of state is presently receiving in audience Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for African and Malagasy affairs. Penne arrived in Lome this morning and was welcomed at the Lome Tokoin International Airport by Ato Koffi Amega, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Also present was the French ambassador to Togo, Georges-Marie Chenu.

From the airport Guy Penne went to the private residence of the head of state in Lome II where he is presently holding private talks with President Gnassingbe Eyadema. These talks will be followed by a luncheon at the same venue.

LESOTHO

26 Officers Reported Arrested for Plotting Coup

AB091419 Paris AFP In English 1406 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Johannesburg, April 9 (AFP) — Lesotho's military authorities have detained 26 army officers for allegedly plotting to overthrow the military council which seized power in the mountain kingdom in January, South African radio said Wednesday.

There has been no official comment from Lesotho on the plot, which the radio said was apparently to have been carried out Tuesday night.

The military council, led by Major-General Justin Lekhanya, seized power from the government of Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan in a coup on January 20.

The coup came during a three-week-long blockade of Lesotho's borders by South Africa, whose territory surrrounds Lesotho.

The blockade was widely viewed as a means for Pretoria to force the Jonathan government to expel from Lesotho militants of the banned anti-apartheid organization, the African National Congress (ANC).

Since taking power, Gen. Lekhanya's government, which includes civilians as well as military men, has banned all political activity and expelled more than 100 ANC refugees.

BBC Provides Details

MB090954 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 8 Apr 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There are reports from Lesotho that a number of military men have been arrested. The speculation is that they were plotting a coup against the infant military government of Major General Lekhanya that toppled Chief Leabua Jonathan on 20 January. Robin White asked (John Mukela) in Maseru what information he had on the arrest.
[Begin recording] [(Mukela)] Well, the information I have at the moment is that 26 soldiers, some of them army officers of the Royal Lesotho Defence force allegedly were arrested yesterday on charges of attempting to overthrow the 3-month old government of Maj Gen Justin Lekhaya.

[White] And did these people have any particular political affiliation?
[(Mukela)] From sources close to the people allegedly arrested, they were a mix of former BNP [Basotho National Party] soldiers who were close to the Leabua Jonathan regime, although the sources here have not exactly pinpointed who the people are or what exactly they are alleged to have done.

[White] Do you know where the arrested people are being held?
[(Mukela)] They are probably being held at the main Maseru prison, the Maseru prison just inside Maseru, but it's possible also that because of the small number of inmates which the prison can in fact accommodate, it's possible that some of them are held at the (Makhunyane) barracks, which I think is more security tight.

[White] The government, I take it, has not yet issued a statement about these arrests?
[(Mukela)] No, the government has not yet issued a statement and I doubt, if at all, the government will be able to issue a statement soon. I think primarily the suspects are going to be kept for interrogation before something concrete comes out from the government.

[White] There's a story — it's confirmed — it would seem that there are splits within the army and that there are some people in the army who still support Chief Jonathan. Would that be right?
[(Mukela)] Well, it would seem so. The implication of [words indistinct] are just that there is some considerable animosity or conflict with the present government from the former regime's officers.

MALAWI

President Banda Speaks at Zomba Budget Meeting

MB081418 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has reiterated that his political opponents who accused him of political ambition at the expense of the welfare of the people have been proved wrong because the country is dong much better outside the federation. The life president was speaking in Zomba today when he closed the budget meeting of parliament. The life president said he was pleased that during the meeting members mentioned the federation, his imprisonment in (Gnwelo) and the Tang'ata system of forced labor which was practiced in the colonial days. He said this indicated that the members didn't take things for granted but appreciated the hardship he went through to achieve independence for this country.

Giving a brief historical background, the life president said during the struggle for independence, his political opponents contended that if he broke the federation, the people in this country would starve and tribal wars would recur. The ngwazi said, however, that events have proved the opponents wrong because the country was developed beyond recognition and the people are united. In addition, the life president said the people are self-sufficient in food, the people dress well, and are living in better houses.

In his address, the life president also thanked his people for heeding his appeal for hard work which has resulted in higher standards of living for the people. The ngwazi emphasized that in Malawi the days of dire poverty were over.

Speaking earlier, the leader of the house, Mr Katola Phiri, who is minister of community services, thanked the life president for his wise and dynamic leadership which has enabled the country

to enjoy economic stability despite transport bottlenecks. Mr Katola Phiri said members of parliament were full of praise to the life president for making Malawi self-sufficient in food and for the overall development the country is experiencing. He said the members also thanked the ngwazi for establishing Chitifuko Cha Wamai [Women's League] in Malawi which will enable Malawian women to participate fully in the country's development.

On the budget statement presented to the house by the minister of finance, Mr Chimwemwe Hara, during the session, Mr Katola Phiri said the house noted that had it not been for the life president foresighted leadership the situation would have been worse. He said the house welcomed the tough measures instituted by the government to put the economy back on the right course.

Speaking after being entertained to tradional dances at State House, the life president reiterated that despite transport problems, the country is doing much better than other countries on the African Continent. The life president explained that goods to and from Malawi have to use longer routes through South Africa and this has put a strain on Malawi's economy. He said, however, that the country is well off because the people have enough food to eat, dress well and are building newer and better houses each year. He also reiterated that he is pleased that he broke the federation of Rhodesia and Nyassaland because people are now free and their welfare has improved. The life president said contrary to what his opponents were saying during the struggle for independence, the people are united and the country continues to enjoy peace and calm, law, and order. The life president also said that it pleases him to hear people from districts that were worse of during the colonial days speak of improvements that have taken place. He emphasized that his first concern is the welfare of his people in the villages. He said whatever they may not have, they should have enough food, clothes and shelter. The ngwazi said the people have these basic things because they have listened to his appeal for hard work in the field.

In their introductory remarks, the deputy regional chairman of the party in the south, Mr Stanford Demba, and the district chairman of the Women's League in Zomba, Mai Makwinja, thanked the life president for improving the welfare of his people. They pledged that the people will always rally behind the life president and assist him in the task of developing his country.

MAURITIUS

Foreign Minister Denies Israeli Ties Imminent

AB081422 Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Port Louis, April 8 (AFP) — The Indian Ocean island state of Mauritius will not establish diplomatic links with Israel, its Foreign Minister Madun Dulloo said Tuesday in Parliament here.

His response to a question followed reports that an Israeli envoy seeking the restoration of diplomatic relations had gone to Port Louis.

Mr. Dulloo said he had met no such emissary.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO's Nujoma Interviewed on Independence

MB071148 Dakar PANA in English 1103 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Lusaka, 7 April (ZANA/PANA) — SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has said his organisation will not enter into any agreement with South Africa which did not grant independence to Namibia.

Nujoma appealed to the international community to exert more pressure on South Africa and rejected linkage of Namibia freedom to Cuban troops withdrawal from Angola.

The international community should pressure Britain, West Germany and the United States to impose economic sanctions on the racist regime, Nujoma said.

The SWAPO leader who was speaking on Television Zambia last night reiterated SWAPO's challenge to the puppet government in Namibia tc free and fair elections supervised by the United Nations.

Nujoma said: The puppet government is not prepared to do this because it knows it is not popular with the people and it is controlled by South Africa.

The Namibian leader accused the Western countries, particularly Britain, West German and the United States, of being more interested in safeguarding their investments in South Africa [word indistinct] Namibia at the expense of millions of black lives in southern Africa.

He said: Blacks have nothing to lose from these sanctions because they do not have property or anything worthwhile at stake, so the argument that it is the indigenous people who will suffer from the sanctions is absurd.

He said the armed struggle would be intensified but did not rule out SWAPO's clash with UNITA rebels fighting the Angolan Government because they were an obstacle to the Namibian independence.

SWAPO would continue its military offensive against South African forces and would not stop at nothing to liberate Namibia, he added. He stressed: We will continue to carry a gun in one hand and the means for peaceful solution in another in order to achieve total liberation of our countrys.

Nujoma also appealed to African leaders to unite and form a strong political and economic front or else they will [word indistinct] be exploited by imperialists.

BBC Interviews SWAPO, SWANU, Government Officials

MB070851 London BBC World Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Apr 86

[Interview with (Pashakene Tshombe), member of the SWAPO Central Committee; (Kaiser Matundu Chiparuru), London

representative of the South-West African National Union, SWANU, Progressives; and Andreas Shipanga, minister of economic affairs in the transitional Namibian Government, on the "African Perspective" program by Fiona Ledger — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ledger] For the past 8 years, the Namibians have been promised independence by the United Nations. The South Africans, who have a standing army in Namibia, says they agree to a Namibian independence in theory, but first they want to see Cuban troops out of neighboring Angola. Last month the South African president, P.W. Botha, announced for the first time a date — 1 August — which, if acceptable to all parties concerned, would signal the beginning of the independence process. In today's program I will be talking about what the economic and political nature of an independent Nambia Namibia might be.

Mozambique, Zambia, Kenya have all established 1-party states. Might not then an independent Namibia be a 1-party state with SWAPO in charge? I asked Mr (Matundu Chipararuru) if it was something he feared.
[(Chipararuru)] A 1-party state in Namibia is not possible irrespective of what, you know, by whatever political party because ... [changes thought] have got so many political organizations who want to have a stake or who want to be represented in a future Namibian government. Now, any party which goes on to try to exclude all the other political parties within the country and does not want to accomodate those people, then I do not think there is going to be a lasting solution to the problem of the Namibian people. I do not think there is going to be a stable government.

[Ledger] But you think SWAPO wants to set up a 1-party state?
[(Chipararuru)] I do not think so. As far as I am concerned there are no indications, currently, that SWAPO wants to set up a 1-party state.

[Ledger] If SWAPO turned around to SWANU and said, look why don't we just all work together to the extent that you just come and join us to become part of SWAPO, would SWANU be willing to do that?
[(Chipararuru)] Well, in the ... [changes thought] becoming part of SWAPO, No, no, no, no, no. I don't think SWANU will be able to do that because SWANU is a liberation movement with its own structure and her own policies.

[Ledger] But, really the prospects of a 1-party state is an issue which I should be putting to SWAPO. Here is Mrs (Tshombe):
[(Tschombe)] Now, the aim of SWAPO is to liberate Namibia from colonialism and imperialism, and after that we are going to put up the government of the people, where all the people can benefit from the natural resources of Namibia.

[Ledger] Do you see SWAPO working alongside with other parties, be they very small parties, or do you see SWAPO, as is the case in Mozambique, where you have one large party that represents a spectrum of political ideas within the (?country), but you have just the one party?
[(Tschombe)] No, we are going to do what is good, what is good for the Namibian people. Now we are only busy to liberate Namibia from colonialism and after that we will see. The Namibian people will decide what to do.

[Ledger] Andreas Shipanga was once a leading member of SWAPO. As a member, he was one of the prime movers pushing for United Nations recognition of SWAPO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Today, he sees things differently.
[Shipanga] You can't (?win) on old notions that one party represents all the people of a country and at the same time demanding to go and supervise elections. Why elections, if you are already elected? And you have declared ... [changes thought] actually at the United Nations declared Namibia a 1-party state. Certainly, on my part and on the part of my party, we do not accept that notion that there is one party which is the genuine representative of the people of Namibia, least of all a party like SWAPO, which is now engaged in a program of killing its own members. So we do not recognize that (?notion) from the United Nations and we know we have got a role to play there and we will play our role in the national politics of Namibia. I suppose the United Nations have really to come to its senses, especially the mob, that mob in the so-called Council for Namibia. They are the ones who are making SWAPO to become completely blind from the realities of what to give Namibia today and what is happening in Namibia.

[Ledger] Harsh words there from Andreas Shipanga and little wonder, perhaps. He did after all spend over 2 years in prison, accused of dissidence under the orders of SWAPO's leaders Sam Nujoma.

The struggle for an independent Namibia is not just a struggle for political independence. It's also a struggle for the country's resources. Namibia is rich in farming land, diamonds, and uranium, and the final question I put to each of the three participants in this program was what economic policies they would pursue if they were governing an independent Namibia? First, Mrs (Tschombe) speaking for SWAPO.
[(Tschombe)] It is a pity now we are only busy with the liberation struggle and after the independence we will see what to do with the economy. The situation will allow what to do with the economy of Namibia, but I would like to remind you that since we are having the problem of technological know-how, I can't see the issue of nationalizing things in there in a very short time and so on, but we are going to do what is good for the Namibia people. They will decide what to do.

[Ledger] It has been said that the best land in Namibia is owned by the white farmers. Just Like in Zimbabwe, land distribution will be a major issue in an independent Namibia.
[(Tschombe)] When it comes to the land, we are going to give the land to the (?tillers). Everybody is going to benefit from the land.

[Ledger] What will SWAPO do? SWAPO could buy out the big white farms that are there at the moment.
[(Tschombe)] You know that we are only fighting to liberate Namibia now and I think the Namibian people themselves, the government of Namibian people, they will know what to do with the land and (?everything).

[Ledger] Staying on the radical side of the political spectrum, here is the economic policy of the SWAPO progressives.
[(Chipararuru)] I think we will nationalize, you know, nationalization is our main policy, because we believe that the main

economic objective of SWANU is to see the material condition of the Namibians improved. Now, I do not think that can be done by a capitalist system.

[Ledger] Would you forbid private enterprise?
[(Chipararuru)] No, I do not think so, but private enterprise as a social [word indistinct] and an initiative of the people, but we are not going to kill initiative of the people to produce, as long as they want to produce to the benefit of the whole country and not only for their benefit.

[Ledger] And what about peasant farmers? Would you encourage them to sell to whoever they like or who would you want them to sell to a state marketing board?
[(Chipararuru)] No, we would like them to sell to whoever they want and that is the — you know — prerogative of the government of SWANU. We're going to check them and see who they are selling to and really, you know, benefitting the people, because people are the main objective.

[Ledger] And finally, Andreas Shipanga. He is minister of economic affairs in the transitional government, so he has had a chance to reflect in detail upon the current state of Namibia's economy, drawing on government resources in Windhoek.
[Shipanga] For my party, and for myself, we believe in a mixed economy, and we believe that the private sector should and can play an important role.

[Ledger] What about, I mean, key industries, if we're talking about uranium or we are talking about the railways.
[Shipanga] I think railways is a foregone conclusion. Railways is a str gic communication thing. It must belong to the state.

[Ledger] What about your mineral [word indistinct resources?
[Shipanga] [Words indistinct] the resources, we still will need now or in the future multinational cooperation, involvement in our mining economy. We are associates, but at the same time the state has only to make sure that it is [word indistinct] in terms of that situation and I could even go further and say that (?since) there is now really local contempt in terms of shares of Namibians in these multinationals and our people being what they are to us, and then (?we can have the people can create) national mining corporation that can issue shares to the members of the... [changes thought] the Namibian nationals and people of long-standing residence in the country.

[Ledger] It has been said that in Namibia the best land is held by white people, the best farming lands that is. Do you have any policy of land distribution if you do get into power?
[Shipanga] I must say now whether it is residential areas or [word indistinct] areas, there is no more discrimination. Everybody who has got sufficient capital, can buy farms in what used to be white, you know, the white areas.

SOUTH AFRICA

Mandated Segregation Ends in Hotels, Restaurants

MB081619 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1610 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Johannesburg, April 8, SAPA — South Africa has scrapped all race restrictions in hotels, restaurants and accommodation establishments in a move hailed today as "a vital breakthrough" by the hard-pressed hotel industry.

The necessary legislation amending the Liquor Act of 1977 has been promulgated without fanfare in the government gazette of April 2.

The director of operations at FEDHASA (The Federated Hotel, Liquor and Catering Association), Mr Fred Thermann, confirmed the amendments in the new legislation, the liquor amendment bill of 1986, mean any person of any race can dance, eat, drink, swim or make use of accommodation in liquor licenced establishments subject only to the normal right of admission.

The liquor amendment bill is part of a general overhaul of the Liquor Act now under way, he said.

The critical wording of the amendment act is "liquor may be supplied to any person, on any premises at the discretion of the licencee or authority holder." Authority holder refers to the Liquor Act.

"In other words, segregation in hotels on the basis of race is completely scrapped," says Mr Thermann.

The breakthrough is the result of a decade of representations by FEDHASA and a year of detailed investigation and submissions, in consultation with the liquor board, the police, government, liquor suppliers and other bodies. Mr Thermann believes the changes will be positive for South Africa's image abroad. "Hopefully it will also pave the way for a return of international tourism."

Other major changes for the hotel industry are still in the pipeline. The hotel act is being amended and will revolutionise the industry, widening choice, introducing the "garni" bed and breakfast type establishment and the tavern or pub, such as those found in Europe, said FEDHASA.

Meanwhile, a massive multi-million-rand promotional blitz aimed at stirring up the potentially huge internal tourism market will be launched in June when 400,000 South African homes will receive a free full colour glossy "get up and go" holiday guide from the South African Tourism Board [SATB].

The guide is being billed as the most hardest sell yet produced by the SATB. The hotel industry, organised commerce, SAA [South African Airlines] and various other bodies are being encouraged by the tourism board to create special packages for inclusion in the guide.

The upshot, says FEDHASA, is likely to be an excellent choice

of inexpensive hotel packages which should go a long way towards encouragement of local toursm. "The consumer can only benefit," said Mr Thermann.

The new campaign follows the boards "world in one country" campaign of some 18 months ago, aimed at various foreign and domestic markets, but is said to be more specific this time, with the total emphasis on the domestic market.

The all-out effort to encourage local tourism comes against the background of a severe fall off of international tourism.

"The tourist mix has obviously changed with the fall off of about 80 per cent of incoming tourists. The SATB is therefore addressing the right market with its new campaign and hopefully it will attract a broader domestic market," saidMr Thermann.

The campaign is expected to reach about one and a half million South Africans when it is launched in June with TV and press advertising backing.

The guide will be made up of nine sections, eight covering South Africa on a regional basis, the ninth covering national or inter-regional holidays and weekend excursions.

The tourism board put the cost of the promotion at "a couple of million rand" and describes it as an opportunity the tourism industry cannot afford to miss.

"It's a high quality, easy-to-use, quick reference holiday or weekend guide which the consumer will keep. It's the biggest boost to domestic tourism this country has ever seen," said a spokesman.

Arrests of Libyan-Trained 'Terrorists' Announced

MB091015 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1013 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Cape Town, Apr 9, SAPA — Two Pan African Congress [PAC] terrorists trained in Libya, who were sent to South Africa to eliminate prominent black leaders, were arrested over the Easter weekend, the deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, said today. A third person arrested with them has not yet been identified.

Indications were that the two PAC members were part of a group of 150 trained in Tripoli in 1982 where they received political and weaponry training, Mr Nel told a press conference.

The two were being questioned.

So far it had been established that they came to South Africa via Tanzania and Botswana to mobilise black university students and eliminate certain prominent black leaders.

Mr Nel was unable to say whether they were the only two in the country at present, or whether they were part of a larger group.

"Intelligence sources in South Africa have for some time been aware of the fact that one of the dictators of terrorism, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdahfi, is trying to export his madness to South Africa."

Asked whether the arrests were connected to the group of Libyans arrested in Athens when they tried to board a Harare-bound aircraft, Mr Nel said he had no information which connected the incidents.

Mr Nel said that although he knew the names of some of the black leaders on the hit-list, he could not identify them.

The South African Government had information that in 1976, a group of 107 PAC terrorists were trained in Banghazi, Libya.

They were trained in the use of AK47 rifles, RPG7 missiles, 91mm mortars and other weapons of Soviet and Egyptian origin.

"The ANC (African National Congress) receives their training mainly in Marxist Angola and other Soviet bloc countries," he said.

Mr Nel said he had no indication whether the South African Government had contacted the Botswana Government.

"The South African Government has repeatedly supplied Western nations with information which indicates that the master minds behind terrorism in South Africa are to be found beyond our borders.

"The world was recently shocked to learn of Libyan support of the terrorist attacks at Rome and Vienna airports.

"Now Libya has also vowed to turn the Mediterranean into a sea of blood and fire," Mr Nel said.

STAR Publishes Interview With Winnie Mandela

MB080900 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Apr 86 p 6

[Interview with Winnie Mandela by Jon Qwelane — date and place not given]

[Text] Q: What are Mandela's views on sanctions against South Africa?
A: Let him come out and tell the people of South Africa that his views are on sanctions. They mandated him to lead them, they have a right to hear him; they have a right to get that direction from him and not from other people speaking on his behalf.

Q: What are your own views regarding sanctions against South Africa?
A: My own views have always been well known. I have always been quoted as one of those who are calling for sanctions against this country. I have called for total sanctions, mandatory sanctions.

We are asking the international community to assist us in saving the lives Ian Smith could have saved if he had listened during the (HMS) *Tiger* talks.

We believe sanctions are the only other open road for us, the only measure that is peaceful. Anyone who says anything to the contrary is a benefactor of apartheid.

One can understand why, those whose pockets are filled with gold from Pretoria's coffers, obviously oppose santions and hypocritically pretend sanctions will hurt blacks.

We bury people every day, we see blood flowing around us. With all that is happening, with 100 percent unemployment, with us living in ghettos and owning 13 percent of our land, we are still supposed to suffer when sanctions are applied to this land, when we have suffered so much.

Those whose pockets get fatter and fatter, who get their reward from Pretoria, will talk that kind of language.

Q: What do you think of the government's proposed "reforms" like the scrapping of the dompas [passbook], citizenship for blacks, freehold rights and open CBDS [Central Business Districts]?
A: What Pretoria says is of no relevance whatsoever. Once you mention the word (reform) which we have learnt to abhor as much as apartheid... we do not speak that language of "reform".

Our leaders went to prison in the first place for speaking reform. They wanted a transitional sharing of power. That alone was some kind of reform in the sense that they were prepared to sit at a round-table conference and understand the white man's obsession, the white man's fear of being swamped by the black tide.

They were prepared to accommodate those fears, they were prepared to accommodate the obsessions (about) the protection of minorities.

The temerity of the white man. He ill-treats the majority, does what he pleases with majority, prescribes for us our education, living conditions, each and every aspect of our lives — we, in the majority.

The whites invaded our country in 1652 and colonised us, they now turn around and say: "If you take over, guarantee the protection of minorities." The insanity of the white man.

What they say about reform, speaking that kind of language, is absolute rubbish which is no longer the language on our lips.

We have knocked on closed doors generation after generation, and now Ronald Reagan talks about constructive engagement. The one thing Mandela said to me when he was in hospital (late 1985) was: Reagan is talking of constructive engagement when we have been contructively engaged for 74 years in the ANC. The man is that much out of step, he is outdated."

We cannot speak the language of dismantling apartheid step by step. The blacks are going to dismantle apartheid totally, in its totality, in its entirety.

Q: Would that be an all-or-nothing option?
A: Who are they to prescribe the quantity of power we, the majority of this land, want? Who are these white minority settlers, who are they to talk about the quantity of power?

Power belongs to the people, the country belongs to the natives of this land. Those with black skin, black hands — they will determine how that power is shared, and not the other way round.

Q: But will Mr Botha's "reforms" and proposed "power-sharing" lower the level of conflict inside the country?
A: The language of reform is spoken by (Mr) Botha and his clique; it is they who are bothered. We are not interested, we are not party to that. We have never been party to that power they are talking about sharing.

We are talking about our power, the people's power.

Q: As you have been seeing Mandela often, what is his vision of a future South Africa?
A: His vision of a future South Africa is the same as it has always been. It is the same as it was on June 12 1964 when he and his colleagues were sentenced to life imprisoment. His colleagues' vision is the same.

They believe in a democratic South Africa in which the wealth of the country will be shared equally by its people; they believe in the same freedoms for all the people of the country, and they believe in a total democracy free of racism and oppression.

Q: How has the series of bannings - adding to more than a quarter-century of restircitions - affected you and your family?
A: I have not been affected in any way by the restrictions because suffering at the hands of the Nationalist Government is part and parcel of the struggle of my people.

Q: But are you bitter that your life has been restricted for so long?
A: I have often been asked that question, and I never really answered it because it is obvious that (generally) a black person is bitter because we have no other choice, we have been forced to hate.

Q: There have been several moves concerning the release of your husband from prison. Could you go on record about the behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing regarding the release of Mandela and his colleagues?
A: As he himself stated in February of last year, only free men can negotiate; prisoners cannot negotiate.

Mandela (and his fellow prisoners) cannot be expected to give direction from behind bars; the government is free to release him in order to hear his views and he has gone out of his way to invite the state to come and discuss with him behind bars, instead of quoting him and speculating what his views are supposed to be, and sending all kinds of demagogues to see him and then analysing what he has had to say.

But the government never had any intention to release Mandela. At any rate, they (the prisoners) are not in the least interested about what Botha is doing and saying concerning their release, about the deals linking them with Sakharov and Du Toit.

But anybody who thinks our leaders will be released from jail by the government is misguided. They will be fetched from Pollsmoor by the people of this country themselves.

Q: Have you been involved, as was reported on at least one occasion, by the authorities or someone else like Chief Kaizer Matanzima of Transkei, to assist in efforts to secure Mandela's release or even persuade him to accept the government's offer?

A: What disproves such reports lies in the treatment that Pretoria has meted out to me. Only in South Africa can a person be prosecuted for coming to their home, as I have been.

It should be obvious then that they could never approach me to send me to my husband with their deals on his release.

My alleged mediation was utter fabrication. Nothing could be further from the truth.

What happened was that Matanzima approached me, and I stated that openly. Matanzima is Mandela's nephew, and throughout the years of their political disagreement they have never lost their blood relationship, they have close family ties.

When Matanzima approached me in Brandfort and asked to see his uncle, I simply conveyed the message that said wasn't it about time he considered coming out to the Transkei as he (Matanzima) was about to retire.

(Matanzima said) one of the last things he wished, was to see to it that his uncle joined him in retirement, and that he had actually gone out of his way to prepare accommodation for him. It was open, and I had nothing to do with Botha or any other official.

Matanzima approached me as he had always done about family matters and by that I am not saying he was not manoevured by Pretoria. Because it is quite obvious he never meant what he said then and he had not approached his uncle as his uncle, but as Pretoria's messenger.

Nelson Mandela Said 'Shattered' by Death of Nephew

MB081951 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1943 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Cape Town, April 8, SAPA — African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela is said to be "shattered" and to have "taken very badly" the death of his nephew, Paramount Chief Sabata Dalindyebo.

Chief Sabata, who fled into exile in 1982 after extensive harassment and alleged persecution by his cousin, the then-president of Transkei, Chief Kaiser Matanzima, died in Lusaka yesterday at the age of 57.

He was a senior member of the ANC.

Yesterday Mrs Winnie Mandela and Chief Sabata's widow, Mrs Beatrice Sabata, flew to Cape Town to break the news to the imprisoned ANC leader. Mrs Sabata would only say "I am very shocked at the death of my husband." She said he and Mr Mandela were "very close" and confirmed Mr Mandela was "shattered" by the news.

As the most senior family member, Mandela must decide on funeral arrangements for his nephew — otherwise the task would fall to Chief Matanzima, which family members said was "unthinkable."

Mandela decided the body should be flown back to South Africa and be buried at his ancestral home — at Xalanga in the Umtata district.

Dressed in black mourning clothes, Mrs Mandela, Mrs Sabata and the Mandela family lawyer, Mr Ismail Ayob, visited Mandela for more than two hours.

Chief Sabata was the hereditary chief of the Thembu people, the largest grouping within the Xhosa nation, and leader of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party in the Transkei.

On August 6, 1980, he was dethroned as paramount chief by the Transkeian prime minister, Mr George Matanzima, after being found guilty of "violating and injuring the dignity" of Chief Kaiser Matanzima.

The Sabatas had nine children — all living in exile — and Mrs Sabata lives in Orlando, Soweto.

Police Detain UDF's Fazzie in Eastern Cape

MB090823 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0819 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, April 9, SAPA — Mr Henry Fazzie, the United Democratic Front vice-president in the Eastern Cape, has been detained by the security police, a UDF spokesman said.

He was picked up from his home this morning.

Held for 'Investigation'

MB091056 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1053 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, April 9, SAPA — Mr Henry Fazzie, the vice-chairman of the United Democratic Front [UDF] in the Eastern Cape was picked up by the security forces today.

He is also the acting president of the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (PEBCO).

Mr Tango Lamani, a UDF office worker, said he had been told by Mr Fazzie's family that the police arrived at their home at 6 am. He said the police promised that Mr Fazzie would be brought back home today.

Lieutenant-colonel Gerrie van Rooyen, the police press liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, confirmed that Mr Fazzie had been picked up, adding that it was "routine investigation."

He said Mr Fazzie would be released today.

The Port Elizabeth Supreme Court recently overturned a five-year banning order on Mr Fazzie.

The court declared the notices served on Mr Fazzie by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, invalid.

The police were reported to have visited the home and workplace of Mr Mkhuseli Jack, the spokesman for the consumer boycott committee in Port Elizabeth yesterday and today. They did not find him.

Mr Jackson Mdongwe, vice-chairman of PEBCO, said his organisation was deeply disturbed by the state harassment of black leaders.

"We see all this an unnecessary stumbling block to meaningful negotiations in the country," he said.

Mr Mdongwe said detentions and harassment would no longer stop the demands of the people for liberation or stifle the consumer boycott of white-owned businesses in the country.

"In fact we have been expecting such harassment and we have come to live with its as part of our lives," he said.

Mr Mdongwe called on the state to release or charge Mr Fazzie immediately.

Mr Stone Sizani, publicity secretary for the UDF in the Eastern Cape, today called for the immediate release of Mr Fazzie "without a banning order."

He said detentions and bannings would not "solve the problem of meeting the aspirations of the black people in South Africa."

Mr Sizani also called for the release of about 50 UDF marshalls whom he said were detained at a funeral on Saturday while controlling the crowd.

Johannesburg Blast Kills One, Injures Four

MB091249 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1248 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Johannesburg, April 9, SAPA — A blast occurred in a municipal toilet in Vrededorp near the Braamfontein railway station today, killing one black and injuring four others, a spokesman for the SA Police Directorate for Public Relations said in Pretoria.

He said the explosion occurred opposite a shopping centre and next to a bus stop at about 1 pm.

He said the man killed had been "badly mutilated" and he had not yet been identified. The injured were all black adult males.

He added that the nature of the explosive device had not yet been established.

A shopkeeper close to the scene of the blast, Mr Jivan Ramjee, said he heard "a loud explosion.""I ran outside and saw four men leaving the toilet. They were all dazed and bleeding."

Mr Ramjee said he was "too frightened" to look inside the toilet in case of a second explosion.

Police and ambulance officials arrived within five minutes of the blast and the injured were taken to hospital. Police later recovered a badly mutilated body from the wrecked toilet. The area near the blast was cordoned off.

Scores of onlookers gathered near the scene and traffic became congested as police directed motorists away from the area.

The last bomb attacks on the Reef were in Springs and Germiston on the East Rand last Month.

Four vehicles were damaged when a limpet mine went off in a rubbish bin in Springs and in a separate incident in the town a gaping hole was blasted in the wall of a church.

On March 4 a blast ripped through a second-floor toilet next to the vehicle branch offices at John Vorster Square. Two policemen and two members of the public were slightly injured.

On March 7 police detonated a bomb planted in a toilet at the Hillbrow Police Station.

Further on Port Elizabeth Consumer Boycott

Unrest Flares on First Day

MB080921 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0917 GMT 8 April 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, April 8, SAPA — Five cars were gutted in Port Elizabeth's sprawling townships yesterday, a post office was fire-bombed and a petrol bomb was hurled at an ambulance in an upsurge of unrest in the townships marking the first day of the economic boycott.

Police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Lieutenant-colonel Gerrie van Rooyen, said that although he could not link the upsurge in unrest there to the resumption of the economic boycott it was "strange" that unrest had flared up on the first day of the boycott after a period of relative quiet.

He said a petrol bomb was hurled at an ambulance in Kwazakele but it failed to ignite.

Yesterday afternoon petrol bombs were thrown at the New Brighton post office — the only post office still in operation in the townships — and an unknown amount of money was stolen.

He said the building was relatively badly damaged.

Three private delivery vehicles belonging to blacks were set alight in New Brighton and KwaZakele yesterday. A minibus and another private car were also set alight yesterday in New Brighton.

Between 6.30 and 7 pm last night the Centenary Hall in New Brighton was attacked with petrol bombs and stones. Damage was estimated at R800.

Colonel van Rooyen said two shopkeepers in Port Elizabeth's CBD [Central Business District] had telephoned the police to say that black customers who bought in defiance of the boycott yesterday had their purchases confiscated by vigilantes.

He said the shopkeepers declined to press charges and only wanted to inform the police of what was happening.

Colonel van Rooyen said no other reports had been received of intimidation.

Jack: Unrest Not Linked to Boycott

MB080958 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0943 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, April 8, SAPA — Incidents of unrest yesterday in Port Elizabeth's townships were not related to the consumer boycott re-imposed in the area, PE consumer boycott committee spokesman, Mr Mkhuseli Jack, said today.

Meanwhile executive members of the anti-apartheid United Democratic Front, who patrolled the black townships yesterday, denied there had been any intimidation of individuals as the consumer boycott entered its first day.

Asked about reports of cars having been gutted, Mr Jack said this was "not related to the boycott."

He called on anyone who was intimidated to report to the PE Black Civic Organization office at Zwide. He and several other leaders had made it clear intimidation would not be tolerated, he said.

Mr Jack said people were "very jubilant at the fact that the shops (in the city) were empty. It was the talk of the day."

On reports that some black people bought goods in the city yesterday, Mr Jack admitted that an announcement made by him at a funeral service in New Brighton on Saturday, where he announced the boycott would start at 12 midnight on Sunday night, had been mistaken by some for noon yesterday.

He said: "Everyone will police themselves against buying in turn."

Mr Jack dismissed a report by a restaurant owner who said blacks could buy food and eat it on the premises but not take it home. Mr Jack said it was a "blanket boycott," They were sowing confusion and "will reap what they sow."

"They should learn a positive lesson from the boycott rather than build up the old baaskap [domination] mentality out of this thing. The time for baaskap is passed now. It is time to build a better South Africa for all," said Mr Jack who had his banning order recently quashed by the courts.

He added the boycott would "hammer" the government, which would be forced to acknowledge that "politics and the economy cannot be divorced."

Pretoria Boycott Extended to Indian Businesses

MB081510 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1326 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Pretoria, April 8, SAPA — The boycott of consumer goods in Pretoria has been extended to Marabastad to "facilitate its monitoring."

A spokesman for the Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee (PCBC) said today the organisation had, after consultation with their local representatives, decided to extend the boycott to Indian shops in Marabastad to avoid creating confusion during its monitoring.

"Consumers who buy in Marabastad usually ask for an endorsement as proof that they did not buy in the city centre. This is creating confusion during the monitoring," the spokesman said.

The indefinite boycott would be reviewed towards the end of each month to assess its effect and the reaction of the government towards the PCBC's demands.

Concerning the destruction of goods confiscated from the boycott breakers, the spokesman said it was never the intention of the committee to force people to observe the boycott.

Each section committee was given a free hand in the methods used to achieve maximum results and coercion was never discussed.

George Council Gives Deadline on Rent Payment

MB081435 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The town council of George has announced measures aimed at ending the violence in the black residential area of Lawaai Kamp. The town clerk, Mr (Karel du Plessis), told our representative at George that it has been decided that people owing on their house rents be given until next Wednesday to pay the money. If this is not done, eviction orders will be issued, and permission obtained to break down unauthorized structures.

Mr (Du Plessis) also said an aid fund is to be established to assist coloreds whose homes have been burned down.

Eastern Cape Development Board Guards Attacked

MB080444 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1950 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, April 7, SAPA — Two guards of the East Cape Development Board offices in Addos township are in a "critical" condition in Port Elizabeth's Livingstone Hospital

after being attacked by a group with knives, pangas and axes and left for dead on Saturday [5 April].

The SA police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Lieutenant-Colonel Gerrie van Rooyen, said today one of the guards went to a shop to buy tobacco and was confronted by a group of people.

He said the guard was attacked with axes and pangas.

His colleague rushed to his assistance, but was also attacked.

Both men were severely injured and left for dead, Col van Rooyen said.

The attackers removed two 9mm pistols and ammunition from the men.

Indaba Postponed, 'Little Progress' Seen

MB081001 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0915 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The Natal-KwaZulu conference which opened in Durban last week will not be resumed on Thursday and Friday this week, as planned, but on the following Thursday and Friday. Our Durban news office reports that the conference at which 34 institutions are being represented showed little progress last week, except for consensus reached on certain conference procedures.

The chairman of the conference, Prof Desmond Clarence, has intimated that proceedings will last for several months.

Violence Reported at Lamontville Schools

MB081324 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Violence has erupted at a number of Lamontville schools near Durban. Carmel Rickard reports.

[Rickard] Officials of the National Education Crisis Committee say that at least three pupils were seriously hurt this morning in confrontations with police. So far, however, there has been no confirmation from police of taking action in the area, and at King Edward Hospital an official says so far only one pupil has been admitted. She is (Prudence Mngadi) who is suffering from a gunshot wound and is in a satisfactory condition.

This morning's incidents follow growing dissatisfaction among pupils about the nonarrival of school books and the bad conditions of classrooms. There is also dissatisfaction about the decision last week by a senior official of the Department of Education and Training to close Lamontville High School until later this month, and his decision to get police help in clearing pupils off the premises.

Student Dies From Wounds

MB081520 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] One of the school pupils injured today during confrontations with police in Lamontville near Durban had died. Hospital officials say she died of gunshot wounds to the head. There has still been no confirmation of the whereabouts or condition of the other pupils claimed by residents of the township to have been hurt in the violence.

At least four schools in the area have been hit by unrest, most of them over the question of school books.

Three Killed As Fighting Erupts in Natal

MB090818 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0813 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Durban, April 9, SAPA — Three men died when two factions of about 300 men each attacked each other between Hammersdale and Umbumbulu yesterday, police said.

The clash was between the Makhanya and Gwala factions.

Police said they found the three bodies lying in the veld but it is possible that more people were killed and their bodies carried off. Two homemade firearms and a number of sticks and assegais were recovered. About 30 men have been arrested.

The reason for the clash is not known and the bodies had not been identified by early today. Investigations are continuing.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 8 April

MB081759 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1743 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Pretoria, April 8, SAPA — Following is the SA police 7 pm unrest situation report issued by the Division of Public Relations, Pretoria:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported since 8am this morning.

"At Lamontville in Port Natal, this morning a mob of blacks stoned a police patrol in the area. They were dispersed by the police using birdshot. One black female sustained slight injuries and was arrested.

"At Sebokeng near Vanderbijlpark, this morning a mob of blacks stoned a bread-delivery vehicle in the area, looted the bread and attempted to set the vehcile alight. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"At Henkeng near Kroonstad, Orange Free State, this morning a mob of arsonists set fire to a delivery vehicle in the area, causing extensive damage. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"At Darlington in the Eastern Provice, this morning police discovered the charred body of a black female. Police are investigating.

"At Port Alfred, this morning police discovered the charred body of a black male. Police are investigating.

"At Bongoletho near Oudsthoorn, this morning a mob petrol-bombed a police patrol in the area. They were dispersed by police using birdshot. One black man was arrested and no injuries were reported.

"At Ugguletu in the Western Cape, this afternoon a mob of blacks attacked a construction worker and seized his firearm. A shot went off and the man was fatally wounded. Police are investigating.

"This afternoon in Soweto, Witwatersrand, a mob of arsonists set fire to a house in the area, causing extensive damage. They were dispersed by police using birdshot and tearsmoke. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"In New Brighton in the Eastern Province, this afternoon a mob of arsonists set fire to a delivery vehicle in the area causing extensive damage. No arrests or injuries were reported."

Early 9 April

MB090613 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0604 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Pretoria, Apri 9, SAPA — The following is the overnight unrest report as issued by the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"At New Brighton near Port Elizabeth, a private vehicle was damaged by stone-throwers.

"At Kwanobuhle, near Uitenhage, police vehicles were stoned, petrol-bombed and acid-bombed. These mobs were dispersed with tearsmoke and shotgun fire. No injuries were reported.

"At Dukatole, near Aliwal North, a man was arrested for intimidation when he threatened people returning from work.

"Two vehicles were damaged by stonethrowers on the highway which passes Chesterville, near Durban.

"At Sebokeng, near Vereeniging, a classroom of a school was damaged by arsonists.

"At Khutsong, near Ooberholzer in the Western Transvaal, a shop was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Soshanguve, near Pretoria, a man was arrested when he stoned an SAP Vehicle.

"At Brigdeton, a coloured residential area near Oudtshoorn, a shop was extensively damaged by arsonists."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB070610 [Editorial Report]

Port Elizabeth Boycott

In another report on page 16 of the 6 April *SUNDAY TIMES*, Jeremy McCabe says that Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Director Tony Gilson and the Port Elizabeth Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce have indicated their willingness to meet with black leaders in an effort to avert the planned consumer boycott in the city. However, "the biggest stumbling block remains the government's ban on outdoor meetings. The boycott organisers insist they must have the right of reporting back to their communities before they can begin any process of negotiation with the businessmen." McCabe adds that the East Cape African Chamber of Commerce "this week unveiled a strategy aimed at encouraging black consumers to continue buying at black-owned businesses," which calls for keeping the markup on staple foodstuffs to a 15-percent ceiling, "liaising with the consumer boycott committee by selecting traders to serve on a price monitoring committee," and improving working conditions and discipline among employees.

SUNDAY TIMES on Tutu Call

Commenting on Bishop Tutu's call for sanctions in an editorial on page 18, the paper says that while the bishop "is perfectly entitled" to make the call, he is wrong to do so. Since blacks will be the first to suffer "the effects of sanctions-induced recession," the paper asks if it is right "to express one's abhorrence of apartheid by those who suffer under it." Furthermore, sanctions will lead to more unemployment "and more desperation in the townships -- the fuel of unrest -- thus giving the ratchet of violence another wicked turn." Nevertheless, while Bishop Tutu's call is wrong, his frustration is understandable, since the reforms he has asked for have been "vaguely promised or slothfully implemented" by the government. "The means of rebutting Bishop Tutu's call (visible reform) lies in President Botha's hands. Why does he not use it?"

SUNDAY TIMES on Parliament's 'Torpor'

Commenting on the second half of the Parliamentary session, which will begin in Cape Town next week, a second editorial on the same page says that while no doubt work was done during the first half, "it is work that exigencies should have seen completed months ago. A sense of urgency has signally failed to project itself beyond those inner and often isolated portals." "The next three months will see the tabling of critically important draft legislation. If the torpor of these past wasted months is to be dispelled, the bills will have to be palpably reformist in intent, concise in formula and swift in implementation. Time and the nation's patience -- resources that not even the government has succeeded in squandering -- demand it."

Time for Reform Running Out

In a column on the same page, Arthur Hammond-Tooke, director of economic affairs of the South African Federated Chamber of industries (FCI), writes that "time is running out for the reform process in South Africa." The government has failed to demonstrate that "its reform rhetoric is not a sham" and "black anger and frustration is growing at the lack of visible results." What is worse, however, "is the fact that the state president adopted the language used by the business community, and especially the

FCI business charter, to market his reform statements. His lack of action is now tarring business with the same brush." Several international groups are considering implementing sanctions against South Africa, but "measureable progress by the government to implement its undertakings in the next few weeks while these commissions are formulating their positions on South Africa could radically alter the conditions imposed on this country. Demonstrable progress by the government to implement its undertekings would also give ammunition to the business community and moderate opinion abroad, opposing boycott action which is now threatening to spiral out of control." In order for the government to regain credibility and encourage blacks to join negotiations, it must produce concrete results in the short term in housing, job creation, and education. Action by the government in these areas would "reinforce and not compromise the negotiation process which has to be essentially open-ended."

'Botha Doctrine' Urged

Writing on the policy of constructive engagement in a column on page 19 of the *SUNDAY TIMES*, Carl Noffke, director of the Institute for American Studies at Rand Afrikaans University, says "the major flaws of the policy of constructive engagement as it is being applied in 1986 are: the inability to view southern Africa within a global context; the inability to lend meaningful support to those who are attempting to turn back Soviet power; and the obvious unwillingness to get their priorities right on southern Africa." The Reagan administration "has become openly unfriendly in many of its actions toward South Africa," a country "which has always been friendly to the United States and vital to the survival of the West. South Africa needs to take "urgent corrective measures" and should launch "a credible and effective public information and persuasion campaign" in the United States. South Africans should also "put the policy of constructive engagement on the back-burner. Let us allow the Americans to evaluate their incomprehensible actions without our active participation." Finally, the government should "develop a South African Doctrine -- a P.W. Botha doctrine -- born and raised in the realities of southern Africa." African leaders concerned about "foreign interference and foreign domination" would be given assistance under the Botha doctrine, which "should be tailored to help those wishing to prevent the Red flag from flying in all the capital cities."

Urbanization Strategy

In another column on the same page, Ann Berstein of the Urban Foundation discusses the need for a new urbanization strategy which she says should be the result of negotiation among "the state, the private sector and authentic black leadership." The first step in the new strategy would be the abolition of influx control, which would also involve issues ranging form a resolution of citizenship status to ending all pass law arrests. "The unambiguous removal of influx control would stop the distortion of the urbanisation process that inhibits economic growth and all attempts to improve the quality of life of urban communities. It would also be the first reform to postively impact every single black family while at the same time fundamentally improve the climate for black/white negotiations." Influx control involves the question of citizenship and "the Urban Foundation's position is that the South African Government should announce its willingness to grant South African citizenship, dual citizenship if necessary, to all the TBVC (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei) people living in the borders of the old Union of South Africa." The foundation also believes that freedom of movement must be available to all South Africans "as a public policy without any reference at all to conditions of work and housing." The focus of the new urbanization strategy must be on development and not control.

Winterveld Mass Funeral Planned

"The 11 people killed during the unrest at Winterveld will be given a mass funeral on Wednesday -- despite the ban on such gatherings by Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope," Mpho Kobue reports on page 4 of the "Extra" section. Mangope has accused people of coming from outside to "incite his people to fight the government" and has "warned that severe measures would be taken against members of any South African political organisation found to be involved in such activities." However, a great many people from outside Bophuthatswana are expected to attend the funeral.

Blows to Business Confidence

"Business confidence has taken hammer blows in the past fortnight from political developments, a sharp drop in the gold price and the rand. The continuing death toll in the townships, Bishop Desmond Tutu's call for sanctions and more bad publicity abroad set back business confidence as it was reviving," David Southey writes on the front page of the "Business Times" section. "Even agriculture, which only a few weeks ago economists were pointing to as a significant gainer this year, could turn out a lot less fruitful than was hoped." "Mirroring most of the bad news in the economy in the last few months," a manufacturing survey by the University of Stellenbosch's Bureau of Economic Research found " 'boom conditions are definitely not in the pipeline for some time to come.' " As further confirmation on the drop in confidence levels, the Association of Chamber of Commerce's business confidence indicator recorded a 4-point decline in March, the first drop in 4 months.

Net Loss of Aircraft Reported

"South Africa suffered a net loss of 111 aircraft last year, but the Commercial Aviation Association says the trend is reversing," Ciaran Ryan reports on page 5 of "Business Times." "A total of 176 aircraft -- including 14 helicopters -- left SA last year and 65 -- including eight helicopters -- were imported. Last year was the first time in SA's history that there was a net loss of aircraft." However, "SA buyers are scouring second-hand markets abroad for aircraft" and importers of aircraft enjoy generous tax allowances."

Winnie Mandela Quoted

Arlene Getz reports on the front page of Johannseburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* in English on 6 April that the paper's legal advisers have decided that Winnie Mandela may now be quoted in South African media for the first time in 11 years. In her first publishable interview, Mrs Mandela "scotched widespread speculation" that Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners may soon be released from prison, terming hints of the release "a political ploy by a government attempting to counter increasing

political violence," adding "it is obvious the government has no plans to release Mandela and the other political prisoners soon." She also said she was not particularly excited about the lifting of her banning order. " 'It doesn't represent a particular step in government policy and I would not be surprised if the order was reimposed.' " Getz also reports that Mrs Mandela told a Brandfort funeral of a man who residents say was killed by an alleged police informer that " 'we no longer come to the funerals of our young heroes to shed tears.'" The time for tears was over, she said, and " 'the time has come where we must show that we are disciplined and trained warriors.'"

No Apartheid in Ambulance Service

"Apartheid will be scrapped in a new, computer-controlled ambulance service planned for the Transvaal, but this will apply mainly to emergencies -- in other cases, traces of apartheid will still be visible," Carrie Curzon reports on pages 1 and 2. All patients will be treated alike in emergencies and taken to the nearest hospital and the service will operate outside of municipal boundaries.

NECC Call Enables Greater Organization

Reporting on the National Education Crisis Committee's (NECC) call for students to return to school on page 2, political correspondent David Breier says that the government is "under no illusion" about the call and realizes it "enabled pupils to be more effectively organized politically." The Department of Education and Training (DET) "plans to suspend classes at schools which politicise pupils" which "could set the DET on another collision course with the black community."

Subsidies for Foreign Students

Progressive Federal Party information spokesman Peter Soal has said the only motivation behind the government's decision to grant secret subsidies to white students from neighboring countries could be a "desire to spread Afrikaner Nationalist influence in neighbouring countries," David Breier reports on page 4. The government has admitted that the subsidies were decided on in 1971 and it has been estimated that 5 million rands of taxpayers' money was spent on subsidizing foreign students at Transvaal Department of Education schools, while other provinces may also have been involved.

Subsidies for Private Schools

"Principals of private schools will be meeting the director of the Transvaal Education Department on Tuesday to discuss, again, the government's proposal to introduce a subsidy scheme based on the numbers of pupils of other races at their schools," Joao Santa Rita reports on the same page. Although the government's subsidy plans are unclear, "principals at some of the top private schools in Johannesburg have indicated that they will reject any racially based subsidy scheme."

95 Unrest Deaths in March

"At least 83 people -- more than three a day -- died in unrest-related incidents since the State of Emergency was lifted on March 7 until the end of the month," Joao Santa Rita reports on page 10. A total of 95 people, including those killed in Bophuthatswana, died in March, and the Institute of Race Relations says that 105 deaths were recorded for January and 107 for February. In addition, "the South African Special Risks Insurance Association said that since the start of the political unrest to the end of February insurance claims had reached R65 million."

Qwelane on Sanctions

In his "Just Jon" column on page 11 of *THE SUNDAY STAR*, Jon Qwelane writes that for all the talk of black suffering with which whites greeted Bishop Tutu's call for sanctions, if a referendum were held among blacks "the resounding 'Yes' to immediate sanctions against apartheid South Africa will jolt people to reality and hopefully shake them out of complacency." Although no one, "least of all Bishop Tutu," underestimates the hardships sanctions will entail, "the suffering unleashed by sanctions -- despite what paid puppets of the system have to say -- will be worth the pain because, unlike in the past 300-odd years when blacks suffered pointlessly under various white governments, at the end a society ordered with the will and consent of all the people will emerge. At any rate, those who whine and snarl that blacks will suffer in the event of sanctions smugly imply that everything is heavenly for the millions of jobless people across the country, the millions of victims of forced removals, the starving hordes in the never-never bantustans, and the hundreds of thousands denied livelihood by the beastly pass laws."

Time for Intolerance to Stop

In an editorial on page 14, *THE STAR* comments that even this week's peace making efforts -- the NECC meeting in Durban and the Kwa-Zulu-Natal indaba -- were "marred by their own attendant cross-currents of violence and threats." The radicals stayed away from the indaba "because of sharpening hostility to Chief Buthelezi -- the same animosity which leads the NECC to brand Inkatha as a 'fascist organisation' and an enemy of the people." "South Africa under apartheid rule is characterised by quite enough intolerance," the paper notes. "When it infects even the peacemakers it is time for the peacemakers themselves to cry halt."

New Political Coalition

"A new party representing elements of the National Party, Progressive Federal Party, the New Republic Party as well as the most important English and Afrikaans business leaders will be formed before the end of next year unless the government finds a credible political solution for blacks," David Breier says on page 14. Representatives of this proposed grouping expressed impatience "with the present logjam in white politics which prevents the government from negotiating with credible black leaders -- including the African National Congress and Inkatha." "Tensions between the government and the breakaway group could emerge at or shortly after the federal congress of the NP in Durban in August when the government is expected to spell out its proposals for power-sharing with blacks." If the proposals "lack credibility with real black leaders," members of the new party could show their hand. Left-wing NP members "have been working behind the scenes to try to move the party towards real negotiation," and "prominent Afrikaners are now urging the government to talk to the ANC despite the armed struggle." The size of the new group is not yet certain, "but there is no doubt it will at least become the official opposition in the House of Assembly." Various estimates of the "New Nats" strength range from about 30 to more than 50. Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha and Minister of Trade and Industry

Dawie de Villiers are seen as leaders of the new group. Dr Fred du Plessis, chairman of the Afrikaans "business giant SANLAM," is also believed to be involved.

Right Wing Wants Elections

The white right-wing parties are agitating for a general election now, Breier reports on page 14. "They believe they would capture many seats from the National Party and could even gain a majority in the House of Assembly if the swing to the right shown in recent by-electons continues." Under the provisions of the new constitution, the next Parliamentary elections need not be held until 1989. President Botha has said he will call a referendum when the government completes its proposals for powersharing with blacks. "Some government sources say that Mr Botha might decide on a calculated gamble by calling for a general election instead." Rightwingers, however, "believe the government is so afraid of them, it might find another constitutional ploy to delay the elections even further beyond 1989. This it could do by declaring another 'new start' when blacks are brought into the central government."